

First Presbyterian Church

Libertyville, Illinois

Easter Sunday Worship

April 20, 2025



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*On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

~ From the Nicene Creed

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Order of Worship
Easter Sunday ~ April 20, 2025
9 & 11 AM
THE GATHERING

PRELUDES

Sinfonia II from Oratorio "Solomon"
Gloria Song, organ

G.F. Handel

This Joyful Eastertide

VRUECHTEN

Risen Indeed

Chancel Choir—David H. Edelfelt, director

♦ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Brian Paulson

Leader: ... Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

♦ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today***

EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Alex Barnes, M.Div.

**Mighty God, by your power Christ is raised from death to rule this world in love.
We confess that we have not believed in him, but fall into doubt and fear.
Gladness has no home in our hearts, and gratitude is slight. Forgive our dread of
dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ,
who was dead but lives, and will put down every power to hurt or destroy, when your
promised kingdom comes.**

(Silence for personal confession)

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy on us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

♦ **THE EASTER RESPONSE HYMN #233 *The Day of Resurrection!* (vv. 1 & 3)** LANCASHIRE

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad, the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of
victory.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin; the round world keep high triumph and all
that is therein. Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has
risen, our joy that has no end.

♦ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

On this day of resurrection, offer peace to your neighbor and respond with the traditional Easter greeting:

"Christ is Risen." "Christ is Risen indeed!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

♦ **EASTER HYMN #239** *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord of life is risen today! Death's mighty stone is rolled away.
Let all the earth rejoice and say: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
THE FIRST READING**

Isaiah 65:17-25

ANTHEM

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen
Chancel Choir, Gloria Song, organ, Brass

Michael Burkhard

THE SECOND READING

John 20:1-18

Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

♦ **GATHERING SONG - HYMN #240** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*
(refrain & v. 1 & refrain)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

*As the congregation stands to sing, children are invited to gather in the center by the stairs
for a time of learning during our intergenerational worship.*

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

♦ **SONG OF BLESSING - HYMN #240** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*
(refrain & v. 2 & refrain)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

Children return to seats.

SERMON

To See and Believe in Joy

Dr. Paulson

THE RESPONSE

♦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH IN SONG - HYMN #246** *Christ Is Alive! (vv. 1, 3, 5)*

TRURO

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: Let us offer our lives and the gifts of our lives in gratitude unto God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
Marchand

The Day of Resurrection

arr. Todd

First Pres Chamber Orchestra—Gloria Song, director

RESPONSE OF PRAISE - HYMN #240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks
NO. 1

ALLELUIA

(refrain & v. 4 & refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

♦ **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND DEDICATION**

THE SENDING

♦ **HYMN #244**
VRUECHTEN

This Joyful Eastertide

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain.
But now Christ has arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain.
But now Christ has arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain.
But now Christ has arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

♦ **THE BLESSING**

♦ **SENDING FORTH**

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed!

POSTLUDE

Fantasia Italiana

Hans-Andre Stamm

Gloria Song, organ; Adam Gohr & Dennis Sullivan, trumpet; Ed Koehler, timpani

♦ Please rise in body or spirit.

Cross Bearer: 9:00
Don Pochron
Banner Carrier: Elyse Danckers

11:00
Lev Sahagian
Jennifer Yonan

First Pres Chamber Orchestra

Dan Brame, Judy Brame, Aiden Cummings, Claire Cummings, Adam Gohr, Annabelle Gohr, Kendra Gohr, Gary Holland, Jasmine Horton, Ed Koehler, Kelly Meyer, Harry Plohr, Michael Riggs, Rose Snyder, Dennis Sullivan, Michael Wagner

Gloria Song, Department Head of Music and Organist