

**Order of Worship April 17, 2022  
Easter Sunday**

**Prelude**

*Janet Witman*

*That Easter Day When Joy Was Bright* (Puer Nobis,

arr. C. Grix)

*Ave Verum* (Charles Gounod, arr. J. Witman)

*Thine Be the Glory* (G.F. Handel, arr. J. Witman)

**Welcome**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Call To Worship**

*Liturgist*

Early on the first day of the week, the disciples of Jesus went to the tomb where he had been buried only to find that the stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty. Friends, we gather here as Christ's disciples, on the first day of the week, to celebrate the good news of the gospel:

**Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!**

***Hymn: "Christ the Lord is risen today!"***

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save; Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to You by both be given; Alleluia!

Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

**Call to Confession**

*Liturgist*

God has opened to us the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident in God's love, let us confess our sin.

### **Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit we have been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet we have not lived as Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of danger. Like Mary, we weep at the time, but do not recognize your presence. Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know you with confidence. Whenever we are tempted to fear death, give us courage to confess your Easter victory. Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil. Reveal again to us your triumph over the destructive powers of oppression. Forgive us our sin and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Words of Forgiveness**

Our Lord burst forth from death alive. Leave your sins behind and live. In the name of our resurrected Savior, Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

### *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

## **HEARING THE WORD**

**Message for all God's Children**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

### **Prayer of Illumination**

*Liturgist*

Living God, by your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see the new light of this day; open our lips to tell of the empty tomb; open our hearts to believe the good news; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Old Testament Reading:**

*Isaiah 65:17-25*

*Liturgist*

17. "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. "Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach[a] a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands. They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

*Choral Anthem: I Will Rise*

*Steve Johnson*

*Gospel Reading:*

*John 20: 1-18*

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if

you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

**Homily**

*"Turned around, transformed, changed"*

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Easter Anthem for Harp*

*Janet Witman*

Psalm 23 (A.M. Stadler, arr. J. Witman) In honor of Westminster Presbyterian Church

**Affirmation of Faith** (<http://en.allexperts.com/q/Methodists-957/2009/6/Modern-Affirmation.htm>)

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God, the gift of God's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen

**Invitation to the Offering**

*Liturgist*

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service.

**Offering**

*Doxology*

*GTG #608*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. AMEN**

**Offertory Prayer**

*Liturgist*

**Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives.**

*Solo*

*Open the Gates of the Temple*

*Ric Fernandez*

**Communion**

*Rev Barbara Macfie*

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Prayer After Communion**

*Hymn Easter People Raise Your Voices*

Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.  
Christ has brought us heaven's choicest; heavenly music, let it ring  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.  
For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe  
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

Every day to us is Easter with its resurrection song.  
When in trouble move the faster to our God who rights all wrong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
See the power of heavenly throngs.

**Charge**

Receive the Good News: Christ is risen from the dead. Tell the good news: the power of death shall no more oppress us. Live the good news: we are free to love as he has loved us.

**Benediction**

*Rev Barbara Macfie*

May God who raised Jesus from the dead bless you and by the power of the Holy Spirit raise you with him in glory.

**Postlude**

*Steven Johnson*