

The Service for the Lord's Day

The Second Sunday of Easter

7 April 2024

Gathering as a Community to Worship

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

"The Heavens are Telling"

Haydn, arr. Lorenz

Welcome & Greeting

Call to Worship

Opening Words (Psalm 133)

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard of Aaron and upon the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

✦ Gathering Hymn

"Thine is the Glory"

GtG 238

Confessing to God's Mercy

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and eternal God, you are the strength of those who believe and the hope among those who doubt. We admit and confess that when we have believed, we have not done so with full confidence, and when we have doubted we have been certain of our uncertainty. May we, who have not seen, have faith to receive the fullness of your blessing, and may the sins we have committed be pardoned through your grace and love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Exchanging the Peace of Christ

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

✦ 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.

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

John 20.19-31

NT / CT p.115

Sermon

Responding to God's Love

Prayers of the People, concluded with the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Celebrating the Sacrament of Communion

Announcements

Stewardship Offering

Musical Proclamation

"Sanctus"

Fauré, arr. Wolford

✦ Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✦ Affirmation of Faith, "The Apostle's Creed"

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and
buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Departing into the Community to Serve

✦ Departing Hymn

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

GtG 817

✦ Charge & Benediction

✦ Postlude

"Prelude in Classic Style"

Young, arr. Smith

Announcements

- Our brief mission statement:
"Loving and serving through Jesus Christ."
- In our Order for Worship, we invite you to join your voices where **print is in bold**. OT / HT refers to the Old / Hebrew Testament; NT / CT refers to the New / Christian Testament.
- The Sanctuary Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of William Hollingsworth by the Hollingsworth family.
- For emergency situations, a First Aid kit is located in the Narthex and in the hallway beside the elevator (along with a defibrillator). In case of emergency, remain where you are seated until directed by an Usher or the Pastor.
- Please plan to attend this afternoon's "Suite Sounds & Festal Fantasies," an Organ & Piano Recital celebrating Springtime. It will take place at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary.
- Piecemakers meet each Wednesday morning at 9:30am. Currently, they are working on Fidget Quilts for Alzheimer patients in Hospice care. Several of these very beautiful and creative quilts are on display in the Fourth Creek Meeting Hall.
- PW Circle 3 will meet 16 April at the home of Anne Herschler, 304 Oakhurst Road, Statesville, 6:30pm.
- Wonderful Wednesdays will resume on 10 April 2024. The menu will consist of Chicken Casserole and Macaroni Salad. Hosting Team 1 will assist.
- The Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Elaine Steele will take place on Saturday, 13 April at 5:00pm. A private graveside service will take place prior to the church service.
- Pharos Parenting will be holding their annual charity concert, Rockin' for a Reason, 11 April at Chickadee Farms in Troutman. This year's band is Blue Monday, an MTV band with a great following. The link for more information about this event is (eventgroove.com).
- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Dove House, Children's Hope Alliance, Guardian ad Litem, DSS, Partnership for Young Children, and Pharos Parenting are partnering to raise awareness during the Month of April. These agencies invite you to wear blue on Sunday, 14 April in support of child abuse prevention.
- Clinkers will meet Thursday, 18 April at the Manse. Please RSVP to Lourdes Winters at 704.880.7737 or lrwinters52@gmail.com.
- Our Historic Cemeteries Committee has rescheduled the 21 April Meeting for 28 April. There will be a headstone cleaning event in Fourth Creek Burying Ground 27 April. Details will follow closer to the event date.

This Week at the Church

Sunday April	7	9:45am	Sunday School
		10:40am	Session: Communion Meeting (Chap)
		11:00am	Sunday Worship (Sanc) with Communion
		12:30pm	Congregational Care Committee (HR)
		12:45pm	Finance and Stewardship Committee (FR)
		3:00pm	Suite Sounds & Festal Fantasies Organ & Piano Recital (Sanc)
Monday April	8	6:00pm	Property Committee (FR)
		7:00pm	Session Meeting (HR)
Tuesday April	9	10:00am	Chair Yoga (4CMH)
Wednesday April	10	9:30am	Piecemakers (YR)
		10:30am	Fall Prevention Class (4CMH)
		3:00pm	AF Suicide Prevention Planning Meeting (HR)
		4:00pm	Children's Choir (MR)
		5:00pm	Wonderful Wednesday (4CMH)
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir (Sanc)
		7:00pm	Sanctuary Choir (Sanc)
Saturday April	13	5:00pm	Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Elaine Steele (Sanc)
Sunday April	14	9:45am	Sunday School
		11:00am	Sunday Worship (Sanc)
		4:00pm	Christian Education Committee (FR)
		5:00pm	Youth Activities (MR/YR)



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The First Presbyterian Church welcomes all to worship and serve the Lord. We honor and celebrate human and theological diversity and unity through Jesus Christ. We welcome individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender, ability, sexual orientation and economic circumstance to participate in the life and mission of our church.