

**First Presbyterian Church of Springfield**  
**Order of Worship for Easter Sunday**

**April 4, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.**

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Worship Leader: Linda Thomas

Moment with Young Disciples: Ross Thomas

**Welcome**

We Approach God

**Call to Worship**

Beloved, why are you weeping? The tomb is empty; the grave clothes are cast aside.

**Now is the time for tambourines and dancing, for victory songs and shouts of joy!**

Believe the good news: our Redeemer lives!

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

**Prayer of the Day** Almighty God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Grant us so to die daily to sin that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

*Glory to God* 245

Christ the Lord is risen today! Hallelujah! All creation, join to say: Hallelujah! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Hallelujah! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Hallelujah!

Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah! Fought the fight, the battle won, Hallelujah! Death in vain forbids him rise, Hallelujah! Christ has opened paradise. Hallelujah!

Lives again our glorious King, Hallelujah! Where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah! Jesus died, our souls to save, Hallelujah! Where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Hallelujah! Praise to you by both be given, Hallelujah! Every knee to you shall bow, Hallelujah! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Hallelujah!

**Call to Confession** The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, praying for us with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Like Mary, who came to the tomb early on the first day of the week and found the stone rolled away, we have such good news to tell! For you, Lord, have cast off your grave clothes and shattered the powers of sin and death. But we have heard this news before. How often have we let our “Hallelujah!” fall silent as we passed through the church doors to go into the world? How often have we returned to daily routines as if Easter changes nothing? How often have our actions contradicted the power of resurrection to transform our world? Risen Lord, forgive us for our halfhearted witness. Free us from the bindings of fear or indifference. Fill us with the light of resurrection and send us into the world to proclaim by our words and deeds that we have seen the Lord!**

**Assurance of Pardon** In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word

**Prayer for Illumination** Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Son. Open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, so that we may hear your good news of abundant and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Old Testament** Isaiah 25:6 – 9 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Moment with Young Disciples**

**New Testament** John 20:1 – 18 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** “The Triumph of Life” The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God’s Word

**Invitation to the Offering** How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God’s great love for all, let us offer our lives to the Lord. (1 John 3:16 - 17)

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**Glorious God, we rejoice in Jesus’ victory over death! You raised him up to live forever. He left behind his linen wrappings, the shroud, in the tomb. Robed in white, Christ leads us from darkness to light. Help us to follow him, leaving behind the things of our past that obscure our horizon. We dedicate these offerings as tokens of the breaking dawn of Christ. May our gratitude shine forth by joyfully giving of our earthly goods. Amen.**

**Hymn** “For the Bread Which You Have Broken” *Glory to God* 516

For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.

In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and Ward in the world to which you send us, let your Kingdom come oh Lord.

**Invitation to the Lord’s Supper and Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks ... [the prayer continues].

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty ... [the prayer continues].

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us ... [the prayer continues].

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

### **Communion of the People and Prayer After Communion**

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament ... [the prayer continues].

#### God Sends Us into the World

#### **Hymn**

“Thine Is the Glory”

*Glory to God* 238

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

#### **Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction**

Dr. Anderson