

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield
Order of Worship for the Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Welcome

We Approach God

Call to Worship

As the sun set over the village of Emmaus, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his friends.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.

Today we gather at the table, font, and pulpit, trusting we will behold the risen Lord.

May our eyes be open to recognize Jesus in his righteous deeds.

Prelude

Mike Belote

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Call to Confession “This is the covenant I will make with my people, says the Lord: I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts” (Jeremiah 31:33). Let us hold fast to hope as we confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Living Lord, by the power of your Spirit you are present among us. Yet, like the first disciples, sometimes we fail to see you in our midst. We do not realize that you are walking beside us, as we meet the demands of our lives. We do not notice you in everyday encounters, for we are distracted by work and consumed by our concerns. We do not recognize you in the faces of people on our streets, for our expectations are too limited to imagine all the ways you dwell among us. Open our eyes to perceive you in our community, so that—seeing you clearly—we might follow you faithfully. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Thus says the Lord, “I will not remember your sins anymore” (Hebrews 8:12). **Thanks be to God!**

God Speaks to Us Through God's Word

Prayer for Illumination Almighty God, thank you for the presence of your risen Son. By your Spirit, shine your light upon our hearts and minds, so that we may hear and receive your good news of new life through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Isaiah 53:1 – 12 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Moment with Young Disciples The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

New Testament Luke 24:1 3– 35 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “The Long, Winding Road to Emmaus” Dr. Anderson

We Respond to God’s Word

Instrumental Interlude “I Need Thee Every Hour” Mike Belote

Affirmation of Faith *Apostles’ 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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering Jesus says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Holy God, you have made Jesus the Author of life. You still do marvelous miracles, bringing new life in our midst. These gifts don’t come from our power or piety but by your goodness. As we reach out to people in our community, may they draw closer to you. Let our offerings contribute to the ongoing work of your servant Jesus, here and now. **Amen.**

God Sends Us into the World

Postlude Mike Belote

Benediction Dr. Anderson