



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Serving Christ and Neighbor in the Heart of Winchester & Beyond



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THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

April 12, 2020

WORSHIP ONLINE & AT HOME



You are invited from your home to participate in the elements of worship preceded in **BOLD**.

Thought Upon Entering

“And so again, Mary Magdalene ran to the house where the disciples were staying and told them she had seen the risen savior face-to-face. “I have seen the Lord!” she declared. But it was not until Jesus appeared to the men in person, allowing them to touch the wounds in his hands and side, that they finally believed. Far from being easily deceived, women were the first to make the connection between Christ’s teachings from scripture and his resurrection, and the first to believe these teachings when they mattered the most.” — RACHEL HELD EVANS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ORGAN PRELUDE “The Trumpet Shall Sound” from *Messiah*
Pat Byers, organ

Handel/Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

EASTER HYMN 232 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross,
Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
Al - le - lu - ia!

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WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Todd Bowman

SCRIPTURE John 20:1-18, NT

John

Empty tomb

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him." Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

Jesus appears to Mary

Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. The angels asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

She replied, "They have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they've put him." As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, "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 and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabbouni" (which means *Teacher*).

Jesus said to her, "Don't hold on to me, for I haven't yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, 'I'm going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, "I've seen the Lord." Then she told them what he said to her.

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Dan McCoig Jr.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Alive" Jennifer and Katie Volkmann, vocals
Amy Bowman, piano

RESPONSE

God strengthens us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

[...the petitions conclude...] Leader: And now as Christ taught us, we are bold to pray...

All: 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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

Leader: Go out into the world in peace.

Leader: Hold onto what is good.

Leader: Strengthen the faint-hearted.

Leader: Help the suffering.

Leader: Love and serve the Lord,

All: Have courage.

All: Return no one evil for evil.

All: Support the weak.

All: Honor all persons.

All: rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

ORGAN POSTLUDE “*Gaudeamus Pariter* - Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain” Setting by James Biery

After prayer and thoughtful deliberation and with deep regret, our elected leadership, the Session has acted to suspend all church activities through May 10 in order to comply with the CDC recommendation and the Commonwealth of Virginia Executive Order 55, as well as an act of Christian love towards neighbors. The goal is to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and not overwhelm our health care system with new infections. Halting the spread of the coronavirus requires a community effort. *If new information arises that allows us to resume gathering in person, we will rescind this action and resume in-person gatherings.* A worship service will be broadcast each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and video will remain on our Facebook page after the broadcast. We will also upload the video to our website.

<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchwinchester>

<https://www.fpcwinc.org/virtual>

What can you do during this time?

- Support our church's elected leaders and staff. We have been making some hard decisions on the fly without a roadmap. We are learning to lean ever more closely on God and one another more and more as we lead in this crisis. We are humbled by the trust you place in us to lead well and wisely.
- Maintain your giving to the church according to your ability. Our financial obligations remain as does yours – mission commitments, staff salaries, utilities, insurance, planned maintenance of a sizeable facility. You can send your offering via USPS [116 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601] or you can give electronically using the “Donate” button on our website. Thank you.

[<https://fpcwinc.org/stewardship/donate>]

- Check on your neighbors. There are folks who are impacted harshly by the disruptions of this pandemic than others. They need us and we can help.
- Pray for your church family. Make phone calls. Send emails. Write and send cards. Let folks know they are remembered and loved.
- Practice Sabbath. Set aside time to be with God, to be silent, to listen for the whispers of the Spirit, to release your anxiety and fear, to renew, to rest.