

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Peace be with you as we celebrate resurrection.
All: **Christ is with us to renew our faith.**
One: We are here to testify to God's grace.
All: **We will share our stories and ourselves.**

***OPENING HYMN "The Day of Resurrection!" GtG 233**

One: The day of resurrection!
All: **Earth, tell it out abroad,**
One: the Passover of gladness,
All: **the Passover of God.**
One: From death to life eternal,
All: **from sin's dominion free,**
Unison: **our Christ has brought us over**
with hymns of victory.

One: Let hearts be purged of evil
All: **that we may see aright**
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light,
One: and listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,
All: **may raise the victor strain.**

One: Now let the heavens be joyful;
All: **let earth its song begin;**
One: the round world keep high triumph
and all that is therein.
All: **Let all things seen and unseen**
their notes of gladness blend,
One: for Christ the Lord has risen,

All: our joy that has no end.

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Dear God, it is so easy to speak the words and not really mean them. It is so easy to voice the right phrases and lack the conviction behind them. It is so easy to say we believe and not know what we are talking about. Forgive us, O God, when we give lip service to you and leave ourselves behind. Make our faith deep and true. Bind us -- heart, mind, and soul -- to you. Make us your people in the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: We have an advocate with God—
Jesus Christ, the righteous one—
who offered his life in love
to save the world from sin.
This is the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

***THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(From your seat, a brief sign of peace may be shared: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, etc.)

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS Deuteronomy 34:1-6
John 20:24-31

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Living Thomases” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,**

whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
People: send us your Spirit of peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional)*

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.

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Holy God, we give you thanks and praise
for light and life and love, and—above all—
the presence of the living Lord among us.
By your Spirit who breathes within us,
strengthen our faith, use our gifts,
and work in our lives to bear witness
to the resurrection of Christ our Lord,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" GtG 833

One: O Love that wilt not let me go,
All: I rest my weary soul in thee;
One: I give thee back the life I owe,
**All: that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.**

One: O Light that followest all my way,
All: I yield my flickering torch to thee;
One: my heart restores its borrowed ray,
**All: that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.**

One: O Joy that seekest me through pain,
All: I cannot close my heart to thee;
One: I trace the rainbow through the rain,
**All: and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.**

One: O Cross that liftest up my head,
All: I dare not ask to fly from thee;
One: I lay in dust life's glory dead,
**All: and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor: ...And let the gathered people of God say...
People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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