

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

— SAN FRANCISCO —

April 12, 2020
Easter Sunday

*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*

Call to Worship

Why do we praise Christ this morning? Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God

The firstborn of all creation

For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible

Whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—

All things were created through Him and for Him

And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together

And He is the head of the body, the church

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead

That in everything He might be preeminent

For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell

And through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven,

Making peace by the blood of His cross.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to God.

Luke 24:1-43

¹ But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel.

⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them,

“Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

⁸ And they remembered His words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹ but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed, hallelujah!

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. ¹⁷ And He said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad.

¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered Him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And He said to them, “What things?” And they said to Him,

“Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered Him up to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. ²¹ But we had hoped that He was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find His body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that He was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but Him they did not see.”

²⁵ And He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into His glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed, hallelujah!

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if He were going farther,²⁹ but they urged Him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So He went in to stay with them.³⁰ When He was at table with them, He took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them.³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him. And He vanished from their sight.

³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures?”³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!”³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit.³⁸ And He said to them,

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Touch Me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”

⁴⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave Him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and He took it and ate before them.

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed, hallelujah!

Invocation

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God,

When I in awesome wonder

Consider all

The works Thy Hand hath made,

I see the stars,

I hear the rolling thunder,

Thy pow'r throughout

The universe displayed,

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
I hear the birds
Sing sweetly in the trees,*

*When I look down
From lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
And feel the gentle breeze,*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*And then to think
That God His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in.*

*That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died
To take away my sin*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*When Christ shall come,
With shouts of acclamation,
And take me home,
What joy shall fill my heart!*

*Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim,
"My God, how great Thou art!"*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!*

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!

Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

Power of the Cross

*Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.*

*Tried by sinful men,
Torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.*

*This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath—
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

*Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.*

*Ev'ry bitter thought,
Ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.*

*This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath—
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

*Now the daylight flees;
Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.*

*Curtain torn in two,
Dead are raised to life;
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry.*

*This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath—
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

*Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.*

*Death is crushed to death;
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.*

*This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath—
We stand forgiven at the cross.*

Confession

(we approach God, repenting from sin)

Heidelberg catechism, questions 12-15

Question 12. Since then, by the righteous judgment of God, we deserve temporal and eternal punishment, is there any way by which we may escape that punishment, and be again received into favor?

Answer. **God will have His justice satisfied: and therefore we must make a full satisfaction, either by ourselves, or by another.**

Question 13. Can we ourselves then make this satisfaction?

Answer. **By no means; but on the contrary we daily increase our debt.**

Question 14. Can there be found anywhere, one, who is a mere creature, able to satisfy for us?

Answer. **None; for, first, God will not punish any other creature for the sin which humans have committed; and further, no mere creature can sustain the burden of God's eternal wrath against sin, so as to deliver others from it.**

Question 15. What sort of a mediator and deliverer must we then seek for?

Answer. **For one who is fully man, but perfectly righteous - and yet more powerful than all creatures - that is to say, one who is also fully God.**

John 20:24-28

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, nicknamed Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, **“Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”**

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed!”

Dear Father,

Create faith, worship, and praise in us. We have been slow to trust at times, we have wanted proof at other times, and we have sometimes struggled with huge doubts. Forgive us! We know You see and hear every time we've held back and not trusted Your resurrection power. Heal our unbelief! Speak peace and truth to our skeptical weary souls and raise us to new life today. Fill us to overflowing with the Holy Spirit. In the name of the living Christ we come. Amen

Silence

Absolution

Adapted from Ezekiel 26:25ff

What does Christ promise us in Ezekiel?

I will sprinkle clean water on you

We will be clean from all our filthiness

I will wash you from all your idols

We will get a new heart

I will put a new spirit inside you

We will get rid of our stony hearts

I will give you a heart of flesh

We will have Your Spirit inside us

I will cause you to walk in My commands

We will keep Your laws and do them

You will be My people, and I will be your God

You will save us from all our sin!

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed, hallelujah!

Offering

(we give thankfully, acknowledging that everything belongs to our God)

www.firstpresbyteriansf.org/give

Song of Assurance

Low In The Grave He Lay

Low in the grave He lay,

Jesus, my Savior,

Waiting the coming day,

Jesus, my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,

With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,

He arose a Victor from the dark domain,

And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose!

Hallelujah! Christ arose!

*Vainly they watch His bed,
Jesus, my Savior;
Vainly they seal the dead,
Jesus, my Lord!*

*Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

*Death cannot keep his Prey,
Jesus, my Savior;
He tore the bars away,
Jesus, my Lord!*

*Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Let us bless the Lord!

Praise Him with highest praise!

What sort of church are we seeking to God to make us? Acts 2:42-45

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Prayer

(because we are reconciled, we are free to call on God to act)

Please feel free to unmute your microphone and ask for prayer at this time.

Those with unspoken prayer requests should use the Zoom chat or text Jinna at (213)210-9797.

Prayer

(because we are reconciled, we are free to call on God to act)

Our Father, Who is in heaven,

Holy is Your Name!

May Your kingdom come and Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven,

Give us today our daily bread

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,

Lead us out of temptation

Deliver us from the evil one

For Yours is the kingdom

The power, and

The glory forever

In Jesus' Name, amen.

Sermon

(we hear from God)

John 17:20-26

I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word,²¹ that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe You sent Me.²² The glory You gave Me I have given to them, that they may be one – even as We are one,²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may become perfectly one, so the world may know that You sent Me and loved them even as You loved Me.

²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, those You gave to Me, may be with Me where I AM, to see My glory You gave Me because You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know You, I know You, and these know that You sent Me.²⁶ I made known to them Your Name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RENAISSANCE

(movement 4)

Communion

Let's proclaim together the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

Praise Him!

The Apostle's Creed *(an ancient common affirmation of belief)*

What do you believe?

We 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 Spirit

Born of the virgin Mary

Suffered under Pontius Pilate

Was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell

The third day He rose again from the dead

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the

Father Almighty

From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead

We believe in the Holy Spirit

The holy catholic church: the communion of saints

The forgiveness of sins

The resurrection of the body

And the life everlasting. Amen.

Response / Sending

Because He Lives

I believe in the Son

I believe in the risen One

I believe I overcome

By the power of His blood

Amen, Amen

I'm alive, I'm alive

Because He lives

Amen, Amen

Let my song join the one that never ends

Because He lives

I was dead in the grave

I was covered in sin and shame

I heard mercy call my name

He rolled the stone away

Amen, Amen

I'm alive, I'm alive

Because He lives

Amen, Amen

Let my song join the one that never ends

Because He lives

I can face tomorrow

Because He lives

Every fear is gone

I know He holds

My life my future in His hands

Amen, Amen

I'm alive, I'm alive

Because He lives

Amen, Amen

Let my song join the one that never ends

Because He lives

Benediction

(we receive a blessing)

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Amen

Announcements

Bible Studies

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Romans Bible Study, hosted by Chris & Thao

Thursday, 7:30 pm

Romans Bible Study, hosted by Cory & Natalie

Prayer Meetings

Wednesdays, 8 am

Men's Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays, 7:30 pm

Whole Church Prayer Meeting

Fridays, 8 am

Whole Church Prayer Meeting

Saturdays, 9:30 am

Women's Prayer Meeting

To attend any of the above:

www.firstpresbyteriansf.org/live

Worship for the rest of the week

The Lord's day is the start of the week where we are refreshed spiritually and renewed in our faith and ought to set the pace for the rest of the week.

These are readings that complement the teaching today:

Monday – Revelation 2

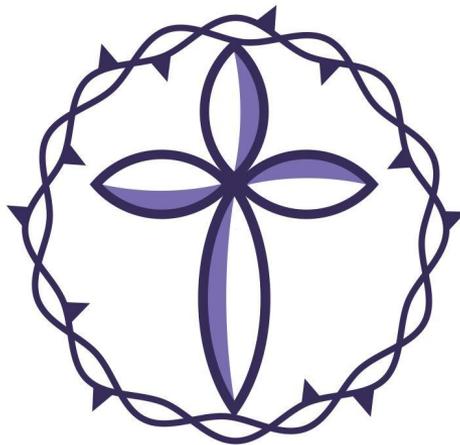
Tuesday – Luke 24

Wednesday – Romans 8

Thursday – 2 Kings 4

Friday – John 21-22

Saturday – Revelation 3



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