



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2A NORTH HANOVER STREET, CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA 17013

717.243.4612 • [WWW.FIRSTPRESCARLISLE.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTPRESCARLISLE.ORG) • [FPCARL@PA.NET](mailto:FPCARL@PA.NET)

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### ORDER FOR WORSHIP Easter Sunday / The Resurrection of the Lord / Lord's Supper April 4, 2021

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*(BOLD indicates Read Together)*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDES

*Dawn in the Quiet Garden* – Martin

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* – Wagner

### GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*Come, Ye Faithful* – Hughes

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Early in the morning light,

**the women went to Jesus' tomb.**

But it was empty, the stone rolled away,

**for God's love is stronger than death itself.**

Let us join their proclamation:

**"We have seen the Lord!"**

Easter people, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

HYMN – "The Day of Resurrection!"

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;**

**The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.**

**From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,**

**Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil, That we may see aright**

**The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light;**

**And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,**

**His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth the song begin,**

**Let the round world keep triumph, And all that is therein;**

**Let all things seen and unseen Their notes of gladness blend,**

**For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you raised Christ from the tomb and shattered the powers of sin and evil. Raise us from the tombs of our sin, O Lord, and bring us to new life in you. You bring us good news of Easter joy. Forgive us when we cannot hear it. You send us out to share your love. Help us when we struggle to share it. Forgive us when we cannot carry it. You cast a vision for peace and justice. Forgive us when we cannot imagine it. Forgive us when we stand in its way. For you are the God of empty tombs, the One who makes all things new. AMEN**  
*(silent confession . . . .)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE TO PARDON – “Gloria Patri”

**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.**

## PROCLAIMING

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Startle us, O God, with the truth of your word and open our hearts and minds to receive your wondrous love this day. Speak your word to us; silence within us any voice but your own, and be with us now as we turn our attention, our minds and hearts to your holy word. We pray in Christ’s name. AMEN**

### FIRST LESSON – Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

(The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**)

### CHOIR ANTHEM – “The Stone Is Rolled Away” – Besig

### SECOND LESSON – Mark 16:1-8

<sup>1</sup> When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

(The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**)

SERMON – “The Ultimate Cliffhanger?” – Rev. Anthony Lorenz

HYMN – “Thine Is the Glory”

**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.  
(Refrain)**

**Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast won.**

**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.  
(Repeat Refrain...)**

**No more we doubt Thee, Glorious prince of life!  
Life is nought 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.  
(Repeat Refrain...)**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (traditional)

**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 & THE LORD’S PRAYER

## *GIVING THANKS*

OFFERING OURSELVES

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name.  
You have conquered death and raised Jesus from the grave.  
Bless all that we offer you – our selves, our time, and our possessions –  
that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the work,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. AMEN**

HYMN OF PREPARATION – “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”

**Come, Ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness;  
loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters,  
led them with un-moistened foot through the Red Sea waters.**

**‘Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days’ sleep in death as a sun hath risen;  
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying  
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.**

**Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus’ resurrection.**

**Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb’s dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal;  
But today amidst the twelve thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.**

**“Alleluia!” now we cry to our King immortal,  
who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb’s dark portal;  
“Alleluia!” with the Son, God the Father praising,  
“Alleluia!” yet again to the Spirit raising.**

#### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

#### THE INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

*This Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and have been baptized,  
including children who have been instructed by their family.*

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voice with choirs  
of angels 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.**

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal and Living God, your Son made himself known to His disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see Him in all His redeeming work; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN**

BENEDICTION – *Recess to the plaza for the closing hymn.*

## SENDING

HYMN – “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Al-le-lu-ia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Al-le-lu-ia!**

**But the pains which He endured, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Our salvation have procured; Al-le-lu-ia!  
Now above the sky He’s King, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Al-le-lu-ia!**

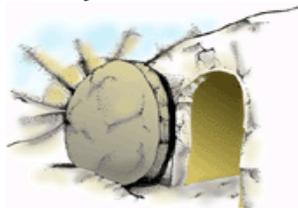
**Sing we to our God above, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Praise eternal as God’s love; Al-le-lu-ia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Al-le-lu-ia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Al-le-lu-ia!**

CLOSING RESPONSE (*responsive*)

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

Alleluia!  
**Amen!**

POSTLUDE – *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today – Hobby*



**SERVING TODAY:**

**Worship Assistant:** Bill Beck

**Communion Preparer:** Rita Beck

**Reader:** Nancy Jacoby

**Vocalist:** Kari Kornish

**Ushers:** Bruce & Anita Ashbaugh; Rick Line; Fred Seltzer

**Camera:** Joe Shane

**Recorder:** Ray Thomas

**THIS WEEK, IN OUR PRAYERS:**

\* **the church at work:** Synod of the Sun; Presbyteries of: Wyoming; Hudson River; West Jersey; Flint River

\* **the church in Carlisle Presbytery:** Gettysburg; Rev. David Wright; Rev. Louis Nyiri (Associate)

\* **the community:** AME Zion (S. West St.)

\* **the congregation (at random):** Arlene Roberts; Ronald & Susan Palyo; Amelia Bressler

**THIS WEEK, IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH:**

~ **Monday:** Office closed

~ **Monday, 7 PM:** Deacons meet (via Zoom)



Members of the Congregation, Ministers

The Rev. Anthony D. Lorenz, Pastor

The Rev. Jon A. Black, Pastor Emeritus

Debby Madden, Educator Emerita

Arthur Thompson, Organist

Ron Richcreek, Music Director

Avis Allen, Administrative Secretary

Chuck Adler, Sexton

Church Administrative Office Hours: M & W, 9 AM-2 PM

Phone: (717) 243-4612; E-mail: [fpcarl@pa.net](mailto:fpcarl@pa.net); Website: [www.firstprescarlisle.org](http://www.firstprescarlisle.org)