First Presbyterian Church

508 Second Avenue • South Charleston • West Virginia

Easter Sunday

11:00 am

"New Heavens and New Earth," St. John's Bible

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Ecclesia Reformate, Semper Reformanda
The Lord's Day April 4, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

If you are new to the First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston, welcome!

Prelude *Mark Nelson, Bagpipes*

Call to Worship *(Responsive)*

L: The darkness is banished!
P: The light of God's love floods in on us!
L: Christ is risen from the dead!
P: Chris is alive forevermore!
L: Hallelujah!
P: Amen.

Morning Prayer *(Together)*

O God of all our days, we come this morning with eager anticipation. We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you. Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew. Open our lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection. May we, with shouts of joy, proclaim your steadfast, liberating love to all people, everywhere. Amen.

*** Hymn** *"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"* *No. 123*

*** Prayer of Reconciliation** *(Together)*

O God, you raised Jesus from the grave and shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to fear and bound to habits that hold us back from enjoying new life in Christ. Indifference deadens our hearts, and we seek comfort rather than justice. We cling to hurt, resentment, and disappointment and refuse the freedom that comes with forgiveness. Forgive us and restore us to the joy and new possibility promised to us in Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

*** Assurance of Forgiveness**

*** The Gloria Patri:** No. 577

Glory be to the Father, to the Son and the Holy Ghost!
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*** Passing the Peace:**

The Peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Please greet your brothers and sisters with the peace of Christ.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People *(Together)*

God of new life, break into situations of illness, pain, grief and loss with resurrecting power. Where there is sickness of body, mind, or spirit, bring healing and hope. Where people mourn the loss of relationships or dreams, bring comfort and courage to go on. Where those who serve and care and maintain our common life are exhausted, bring rest and renewal. Resurrect, renew and revive your people, O God. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(Together)*

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.

Anthem *"He Is Not Here, He Is Risen"*

Dr. Mark Hornbaker, Director and Composer

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen." The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.

He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see Raboni, raboni, Oh Rabbi, Teacher, Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see Jesus said, Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am raised,' "Peace be with you."

Scripture Reading John 20: 1-18 *Bible Page 944*

Sermon "I Have Seen the Lord" *Rev. Sharon Gearing*

Hymn *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"* *No. 113*

Dedicating our Lives

***Prayer of Dedication**

Duet *"You Raise Me Up"*
Mark Hornbaker & Collin Nelson

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to our God.

All glory and honor are yours, Almighty creator. We praise you for forming this magnificent world from nothing, for creating us in your image, breathing life into us and placing us in this world.
As a parent you gather us to you, teaching us how to live in your love.

When we turned away from your way, you sent the prophets to call us back.
You have called leaders in every time to bring us back into your loving embrace.
In Jesus you came to live among us. On earth he was living bread to feed our hunger, and living water to quench our thirst for you. He showed us how you want us to live: eating with sinners, healing the sick, reaching out to the unloved.

He called followers to learn his way to carry your Word to the world.
He suffered persecution, torture and death, but then he rose to new life that we might know your eternal love and hope.

Merciful God, by your Spirit, bless us and make us holy. Be present in your gifts of wine and bread so that we are all united with each other and with you. In communion with all the faithful in heaven and on earth, fulfill in us and in all creation the purpose of your redeeming love. Amen.

Words of Institution
Passing the Bread and Cup
Prayer

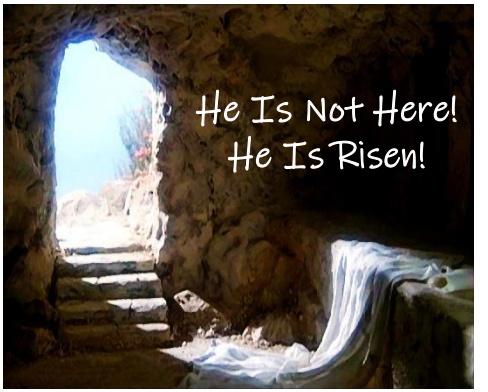
***Hymn** *"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"* *No. 104*

*** Benediction**

"Christ Is Alive!"

Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now,
And touching every place and time.

Postlude



Easter Anthem

Dr. Mark Hornbaker, Composer and Director

Musicians/Singers

Michele Brooks
Carolyn Chamness
James Cochran
Aria Cowder, Soloist
Ash Cowder, Soloist
Andrea Elkins, Soloist
Kathi Elkins, Soloist
Vickie Green
Nancy Knurek
Dave Long
John Melton
Sandy Melton
Collin Nelson, Soloist
Mark Nelson, Bagpipes
Bill Rainey, Soloist
Gena Ryan
Belinda Skeen
Jenna Skeen Soloist
Amy Teter
Mike Warrick

SPECIAL OFFERINGS
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Contributions Support Disaster Relief,
Self-development of People, and Hunger
(Offerings received throughout Lent, dedicated on Easter Sunday, April 4)

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Three Ways to Contribute to OGHS:

1. Mail a check to the church, indicating "OGHS" on the memo line
2. Use our online giving portal on fpcscwv.org to make a payment by credit card or direct withdrawal from your bank account.
3. Drop off a cash contribution in the mail slot at the church in an envelope clearly marked with your name and "OGHS 2021.

Nurturing Faith

April 4 – Resurrection of the Lord/Easter: Read John 20:1-18

Each gospel tells the story of Jesus' resurrection differently. In John's gospel, the risen Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene as she stood near the empty tomb. Mary didn't recognize Jesus until he spoke her name; after that encounter, she went and told the disciples, "I have seen the Lord." Mary didn't expect to see Jesus and didn't. Are you open to hearing Jesus speak to you when you don't expect it? What might you do to be more open to that possibility?

First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston Website *www.fpcscwv.org* makes available Sunday morning worship bulletins, newsletters, Session information, and youth group video. Also, posted are the Announcements for the Month, as well as information about upcoming mission projects and many fellowship opportunities.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS & DEEDS OF LOVE

Church Family
Sandy Bays
George Brown
Helen Cobb
Bob Field
David Hoffman
Holliday
McIlwain
McIlwain

Church Family
Martha Racer
Barbara Snyder

Care Facilities
Tom HainesCuster
Ray HoppeDrew
Jack JonesMarsha
Jean Sibold

Presbyterian Connections
Child Development Center
Bluestone Camp & Retreat Center
Lineweaver Cottage, Davis-Stuart
Fort Liberté, Haiti
Harman Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church, South Charleston
Gura Parish, Kenya

Technology Upgrades Contributions

We have had several inquiries from folk who want to contribute to the cost of upgrading our audio/visual equipment in the sanctuary. If you would like to make a contribution to this project, you may do so through our ***Tithely*** giving app on the church website at fpcscwv.org. You may also send a check to the church, noting "Technology Upgrades" on the memo line of your check.

--Creative Tech & Communication Committee

First Presbyterian Church

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Ministers:

EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION
Sharon Gearing, *Pastor*
Mark Hornbaker, *Master of Music*
Becky Smith, *Office Manager*
Beverly Hughes, *Custodian*

Office Hours:

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM
(Monday through Thursday; closed Friday)

E-Mail Addresses:

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WIFI Password: PresbyGuest

Elders on Session:

Carol Bryan	Dave Long
Cheryl Eary	Rick Smith
Joe Fuller	Tom Titus
Bob Kent	

Trustees:

Hersha Brown	(2021)
John Melton	(2022)
Chris Luzier	(2023)

I want to say "Thank you," to all who continue to work tirelessly to provide our online worship services. This ministry has enabled us to continue to give God glory, to meet together spiritually although physically apart, and to share the great news of God's love with thousands of people across our country. God has expanded our ministry in ways we never imagined. It is an honor to take part in God's work in our world.

Rev. Sharon Gearing
Pastor

Sarah Halstead Boland, Lisa Woo
Videographers

Mark Hornbaker
Master of Music, Pianist and Tenor Soloist

Sarah Bender, Collin Nelson
Musicians

Cheryl Eary
Chair of the Technology Team

Tina Amburgey Dorsey
Projection Coordinators

Lisa Woo
Worship Production Setup