

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

We Gather in God's Name

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Chorale Prelude on *Llanfair* Hermann Schroeder
Melody for hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, children of God, to sing a new song; clap your hands and shout
your praise.

Jesus is our good news, our joy, and our salvation.

In steadfast love and faithfulness, God has done marvelous things.

God raised Jesus from the dead; Christ is alive and at work among us.

God calls us into partnership with Christ Jesus and bids us walk in the light.

How good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity.

OPENING HYMN#245 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

Ryan Norris, cantor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*quietly in unison*)

God of Light, you have called us into partnership, but we have chosen
instead to go our own way. You have given us light and we have preferred
to walk in the shadows. You call us to truth while we cling to our lies. We
try to fool others and end up deceiving ourselves. Come to us in our
confusion and sin to forgive us, we pray, and make us whole...

(Our prayer continues in silence)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

Remember that it is by grace that you are saved; that your pardon is a gift, never bought, never earned, received only by the open arms of faith.

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

(For those in the sanctuary, please greet one another with a friendly wave.)

GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father

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.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Suzie Lane

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE VERSE 487, vs.4 These Treasured Children

*Come Holy Spirit, help us be
a nurturing community.
Empower us to realize
God's kingdom through our children's eyes.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 16

L: The word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 20:19-31

L: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. P: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

SERMON

"In Defense of Doubters"

Rev. Scott Huie

We Respond to God's Word

HYMN#817

“We Walk by Faith and Not Sight”

Ryan Norris, cantor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnated of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scripture; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER
(people read **bold**)

Living God, giver of life
hear us as we pray, saying,
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for the church...

Let your church be a living sign of the woundedness and healing of Christ,
sharing the gift of forgiveness and the gospel of reconciliation.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for the earth...

Help us to see the scars of death that mark your good creation,
and to seek the blessing of life that you offer to all creatures.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for all nations...

Show us how to live together as your children in your care,
and anoint us with your wisdom so that we may seek the ways of life.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for this community...

Give us a vision of the common good:

not clinging to division

but seeking unity as a testimony to Christ's resurrection.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for loved ones...

Be near to those who walk in darkness and lead us all into Christ's light
so that our friendship may be true and our joy may be complete.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for Don Clevenger and Van Gilmore, and those whom we lift up by
voice or in silence.

Pour out your blessing, O Lord;

send us your Spirit of peace.

By the blessing of your Spirit,

help us to live as we pray so that the world may come to know
the gift of life in Christ our Lord,
who invites us to pray...

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.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts
And Bear it Into the World

CLOSING HYMN#257

"The Risen Christ"
Ryan Norris, cantor

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on *Christ ist Erstanden* Johann K. F. Fischer
Melody for hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Again"

245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1 "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say:
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to you by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise,
 Je - sus died, our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

Originally printed as eleven four-line stanzas without alleluias, this Easter text was written during the first year following the author's life-changing conversion experience, yet it already shows his enduring emphasis on the theme of love. This lively Welsh tune sets it well.

817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 And when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you

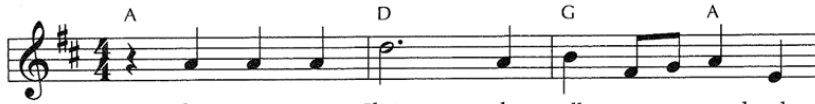
none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19–29). The shape note tune, named for a stream in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, adds resolution to the words.

The Risen Christ

257



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound - ed
 2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound - ed
 3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound - ed
 4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and



feet from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y
 side, breathes out his Spir - it on them to a -
 hand the bread for those who fail to un - der -
 stand with the op - pressed in this and ev - ery



street, un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear, and
 bide whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve; new
 stand, re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - gering tears, en -
 land, till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be, re -



speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
 grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
 flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
 stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This perceptive hymn centers on Christ's post-Resurrection appearances described in John 20:19–29 and Luke 24:13–48. The first three stanzas are shaped by the wounded body parts: feet, side, hand; the fourth prays for such woundedness in the witness of Christ's body, the Church.