

MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Karri Fjeldheim

March 31, 2024

In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

Resurrection of our Lord



Gathering Music: *Wandering Heart: Return to You (video)*

Words of Welcome

Pastor Christina

Prelude:

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Maryrose Beerman & Joyce Walker

Call to Worship (**responsive**):

Liturgist

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

One: Yesterday we thought death had won.

Yesterday we thought all was lost.

Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

All: But not today.

Today we know that love has won.

Today we know that hope is real.

Today we know that Christ is here.

One: We have a reason to hope.

All: We have a reason to sing!

One: Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

One: Christ is risen today.

Congregational Hymn # 232:

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (**Responsive**):

One: The stone is rolled away!

All: We assume it is a mistake.

One: The angels say, "He is not here!"

All: We assume their news is fake.

One: The women tell the story,

All: but we do not want to hear it.

One: Peter runs to the tomb,

All: but we do not understand.

One: Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb is nothing more than a prank.

All: Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths and still holding tight to death.

One: Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope when you are alive and well in the world.

All: Teach us to see what you see.

One: Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

All: Amen.

Words of Forgiveness (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: The angels tell the women, "Remember what Jesus told you." So, church, remember this: You are seen. You are forgiven. You are held in God's grace. All of this is true. Grace and mercy abound for you. Remember this.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response to Assurance:

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymn # 475

*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I **hope**, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

*O, to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above!*

Time with the Young and Young at 

Special Music:

We Welcome Glad Easter

Resurrection Singers

Prayer for Illumination

Pastor Christina

Reading:

Luke 24:1-12

Page 109, NT

One: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message:

Wandering Heart: "And I Hope"

Rev. Christina Greenawalt

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Invitation to Live Generously: *The offering basket is near the back door of the sanctuary.
You may also give online at www.merrittislandpc.org*

Response:

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn:

Because He Lives

*God sent His son, they called Him Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow; because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives!
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow; because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives!*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

See What a Morning

Joyce Walker & Maryrose Beerman

Ushers: Craig & Marilyn Smoot, Linda Whitten
Attendance Last Week: In Person: 51, On Line: 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! He Is Risen, Indeed! Thank you for joining us today, whether you are here in person or online! We gather together as a church family, from wherever we may be. If you would like to know more about MIPC, how you can be more involved, or to speak to the pastor, please contact the church office at the number/email below.

Next Sunday, April 7, we welcome the Special Gathering singers to worship, under the direction of Rev. Richard Stimson. It is always a joy to have these folks with us.

Ways to Serve

One Great Hour of Sharing: Through Easter Sunday (today), we receive this PC(USA) offering. For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Please consider giving to this wonderful cause. Special envelopes and flyers with more information are available in the Narthex.

Ways to Connect

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Narthex after worship. Thank you, Betsy Heenan, for providing goodies today! If you'd like to bring snacks one week, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Adult Faith Enrichment Class: Join us for Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or on Zoom. All are welcome at any time! The Zoom link is emailed weekly.

Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays! Come and join us in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m. for our Women's Bible Study Group. (Our next gathering is April 5.) Our study, led by Julie Hill, is titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts." Please contact Julie Hill for more information and questions. cj2hill@bellsouth.net or 321-431-5333.

Celebrations & Concerns

Happy Birthday to:

April 3: James Neihouse

Happy Anniversary to:

April 2: Al & Heidi Sams

Our Prayers are with:* Sis Beckman, Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Elaine Krieger, Janet Post, Kelly Shephard, and George Wilcox.

** Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared on our Prayer Chain Email (or if you'd like to be on the email distribution list), contact Jill Franklin at mipcprayerchain600@gmail.com, or make a note on the Prayer Request card in the pew.*

Thank you, Maryrose Beerman, Ted Beerman, Jeana Lutz, Joyce Walker, and the Resurrection Singers for the beautiful music today!

THIS WEEK AT MIPC:

Monday, April 1, 6:00 PM	Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, April 2, 3:00 PM:	Kids Klub, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, April 2, 8:00 PM:	AA, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, April 3, 3:30 PM:	One Purpose, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, April 4, 6:00 PM:	Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall
Friday, April 5, 12:00 PM	Women's Retreat Meeting, Session Room
Friday, April 5, 2:00 PM:	Fabulous Friday, Activities Room
Saturday, April 6, all day:	Scouts Pinewood Derby, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, April 7, 9:00 AM:	Adult Faith Formation, Session Room
Sunday, April 7, 10:00 AM:	Communion Worship Service - Special Gathering will sing
Sunday, April 7, 11:00 AM	Christ the King Church service, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, April 7, 3:00 PM	Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

For more information on any of these events, check with the church office.

Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Pastor

Maryrose Beerman, Acting Music Director
Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director
Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary
James Neihouse, Live Feed Director/Producer
www.merrittislandpc.org

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