



## EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2025

*Welcome to worship. The asterisk (\*) invites all to rise in body or spirit.  
The people's responses are in **bold type**. Please silence cell phones.*

### ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S WORD

#### CHIMING OF THE HOUR / POURING OF THE WATER

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

Brass Quartet

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The day, the first day, is dawning.

**The ground is shaking with good news.**

The stone that we thought was the end is rolled back.

**The dawn is greeted by a messenger of light.**

Do not be afraid. Come and see. Go and tell.

**The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

In the name of Jesus Christ, let us worship God.

#### \*HYMN 232

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Holy God, we praise you for the power of your saving love revealed with the dawning light in the resurrection of our Lord. As you have raised Jesus from the dead, give to us the gift of life, abundant and free, that we may worship you today and forever. Amen.**

#### LITANY OF ASSURANCE

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power;  
he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed.

**Through Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**

Though he was put to death on a cross, God raised him on the third day, breaking the power of sin and death.

**Through Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**

He is Lord of all, the living one who meets us with grace and mercy.

**Through Christ, we are forgiven and made new.**

Friends, this is the good news that we are given to proclaim: Christ is risen, and we are made new.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*THE PEACE** *(Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.)*

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**\*THE READING OF THE LAW**

Let us now remember the standard by which God calls us to live.

**“God spoke all these words, saying, I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor’s home; you shall not covet your neighbor’s spouse, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”**

Blessed are they whose delight is in the law of the Lord. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE 238**

*Thine is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death has won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay. Thine is the glory...**

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

**TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH**

Sam Belcher

*Children of all ages are invited to come forward. Nursery (0-3) and Children’s Worship (ages 4, 5, K) info on the back of the bulletin.*

**PSALM 118 – A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING**

*(The congregation is invited to speak the Psalm responsively.)*

**ANTIPHON: On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Lord is my strength and my song;

**and has become my salvation.**

There is a sound of exultation and victory

**in the tents of the righteous. (ANTIPHON)**

The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!

**the right hand of the Lord is exalted,**

**the right hand of the Lord has triumphed.**

I shall not die...but live,

**and declare the works of the Lord. (ANTIPHON)**

The same stone which the builders rejected,

**has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord’s doing,

**and it is marvelous in our eyes. (ANTIPHON)**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 28:1-10 (Pg. 811)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Do Not Be Afraid*

Eddie Bellis

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**\*HYMN 233**

*The Day of Resurrection!*

LANCASHIRE

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND LIVES**

*Fold and place your completed "Connection Card" in the plate offering.  
To give online, scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*(The congregation is invited to join in singing the final verse of the anthem.)*

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy,  
with justice, love, and praise.**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures, here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Leader continues the prayer... who forever sings your praise:*

**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.**

*Leader continues the prayer... Great is the mystery of faith.*

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*Leader continues the prayer... now and forever. Amen.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF SALVATION**

*All bread is gluten-free. The wine is non-alcoholic grape juice.*

**COMMUNION MUSICAL MEDITATION**

Brass Quartet

*God whose giving knows no ending...costly cross, grave's shattered door.... The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now, a royal diadem adorns the mighty victor's brow.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*HYMN 238**

*Thine is the Glory!*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Brass Quartet

**\*RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

Five Bell Peal

**LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor

Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor

Sam Belcher, Youth Director

Michael Snoddy, Director of Music and Organist

The Chancel Choir – Brass Quartet and Timpani

8:30 Service: Susan Burns, Liturgist; Caroline Freiburg, Acolyte

10:15 Service: Ryan Fox, Liturgist; Lynlee Nichols, Acolyte

Mike Moyers, Artist

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are in celebration of Christ's resurrection.*

**PRAYER LIST**

**New:**

Millard Jefferson

Karen Hanson's brother, Kris Creeden

Heather Reimer's mother, Vicki Whipple

Elizabeth Stivers' friend, John Dulaney

Linda Cairatti's father, Bill Jack

**Deaths:**

Ted Bechtel, March 30, 2026

**Members:**

Ann Brown, Barbara Crunk, Jeff Doering, Carolyn Hayes,

Caleb Lillard, Anne Osborne

**In Memory:**

Mary Robinson	April 6, 2007	Otto Bock	April 8, 2012
Estelle Pinkerton	April 7, 2007	Bob Boyce	April 11, 2020

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The FPC Staff and Session wish everyone a blessed Easter.** The church office will be closed on Monday, **April 6.**  
**Wednesday Night Live (WNL):** 6 PM- Dinner; 6:45-7:30 PM- Adult, Youth, and Children programs. Sign up on the FPC website or the Connection Card. This week Phil Otts will be sharing on Terrorism. **Wednesday Night Live Book Study: April 15 and 22** presentation and discussion of *False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Re-founding Democracy* by Jim Wallis. Eddie Bellis will be facilitating the discussion. Wallis challenges the church to see how cultural and political pressures can distort the Christian gospel and calls us to respond like Christ—with justice, humility, and love. This study invites us to reflect on our faith in today's climate and consider how we can live out a gospel that transforms our communities and our nation. All are welcome to come for the meal, stay for the conversation!

**Emergency Medical Sessions:** Learn what to do before EMS arrives in situations involving unconsciousness, choking, bleeding, and AED use. Led by Don Arnold in the Barr Conference Room with the assistance of Blair and Larry Reynolds after services on **April 12 & 19 and June 7 & 28** Healthcare professionals interested in helping can contact [don.arnold@yumc.org](mailto:don.arnold@yumc.org).

**Adults 55+:** Join us on **Monday, April 13** at 11 AM in Barr Conference Room for a presentation on storytelling- what it is, why it matters, and how to tell a great story. Soup & salad lunch will be provided. No sign up needed.

**Sparkle for Smiles:** The Jiselle Lauren Foundation, founded by FPC members Bailey and Jill Pratt, will host the annual *Sparkle for Smiles* fundraiser on **April 18** from 4–8 PM at Westhaven Golf Club. Visit [thejisellelaurenfoundation.org](http://thejisellelaurenfoundation.org) for more info.

**Congregational Favorites Hymn Festival April 19** with Adam Troxler, instrumentalist – A festival of hymns based upon the Lord's Prayer with prayers and meditations by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Featuring music for congregation, choir, organ, and instruments.

### **FISH Service Opportunities:**

**April 23,** St. Augustine's Chapel at 6:30 PM for a fun evening of fellowship with Vanderbilt & Belmont students. Dinner provided by Guac and Queso, Eric England's food truck.

**April 25,** Room In The Inn: prepare, pack, and serve lunch to guests.

**May 2,** FPC Workday at Hard Bargain Assoc. 9:30 AM–1:00 PM, meeting at Ty's House (608 Mt. Hope Street) to help with yard work, painting, and minor repairs.

**May 16** FPC will serve alongside GraceWorks Ministries at Fairview Middle.

**Summer Wonder Hour Volunteers Needed:** Are you passionate about the wonders of creation? Can you share your love of nature one Sunday morning this summer? Summer Wonder Hour for elementary students needs you! Topics from insects to trees to mountains are welcome! Email [katiegottlieb@yahoo.com](mailto:katiegottlieb@yahoo.com) if interested.

**Senior Sunday: May 3** join us for a special worship service honoring our graduating seniors, followed by a banquet in Wilson Hall. Senior Bibles will be available in late April—stop by to leave an encouraging note as they begin a new chapter.

**April Basic Essentials:** Support the GraceWorks Ministries Food Pantry year-round through donations to the Basic Essentials Cart. April's highlighted collection is Asher's Animals; a ministry created in memory of Asher that provides stuffed animals to children experiencing illness or trauma. Help share comfort and keep his legacy alive by donating a new, tagged stuffed animal (small to medium size) to the cart.

### **Upcoming:**

**May 17:** Confirmation Sunday

**May 17- 3 PM:** Performance by Concert Organist Alcee Chriss



Use the QR code to visit **Upcoming Events/Registrations.**

***Responding to God's grace through worship, study, and service.***

Our purpose is to joyfully follow Christ and respond to God's grace as an inclusive, multigenerational faith community by:

- Deepening discipleship through relevant worship and life-long learning
- Creating and nurturing congregational relationships
- Transforming lives and connecting with others through service

**Welcome!** We extend a warm welcome to all who are here today. Whether you are from our community or visiting, we are glad to have you among us.

**We strive to be inclusive and offer assistance for those with disabilities.**

T-Coil hearing devices are available from members of the Hospitality Team. We have pew cutouts for accessibility and offer sensory nurturing items for children. If anyone has other needs or disabilities that require assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please don't hesitate to contact the church office at 615-794-5114.

**Our Nursery** is available for infants and children through 3 years old downstairs in Room 111. Children of all ages are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary.

**Children's Worship** is available for children ages 4 through kindergarten in Room 101 following Time with the Young Church. Those attending will be returned to the sanctuary before the end of the service. For accommodations and more information, please contact the Director of Youth Ministries, Sam Belcher ([sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org](mailto:sbelcher@fpcfranklin.org)).

**Prayer requests** to share concerns or celebrations may be sent to Anne Keener ([akeener@fpcfranklin.org](mailto:akeener@fpcfranklin.org)).

THE SESSION

Class of 2026

Leanne Hoeffler  
John Korab  
Tammy Love  
Starr Nolan  
Phillip Otts

Class of 2027

Greg Bennorth  
Dan Crunk  
Sarah Fox  
Martha Johnson  
Jim Petersen

Class of 2028

Judi Arnold  
Rick Blackburn  
Rich Crim  
Tony Inglis  
Rachael Stanfill

THE CHURCH STAFF

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor  
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor  
Michael Snoddy, Dir. of Music/Organist  
Sam Belcher, Dir. of Youth Ministries  
Catherine Olson, Dir. of Operations

Marie Hayman, Accountant  
Kate Lasseter, Nursery Coordinator  
Kelly Oldham, Nursery Coordinator  
Linda Cairatti, Nursery Staff

*First Presbyterian Church, Franklin, is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a member of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, the Synod of Living Waters, and the General Assembly of the PC(USA).*

615.794.5114 | [fpcfranklin.org](http://fpcfranklin.org)

Church Office Hours M-Th 9 AM-4 PM

101 Legends Club Lane, Franklin TN, 37069

615.794.5114 | [fpcfranklin.org](http://fpcfranklin.org)

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Thank you for your generosity!

