

WELCOME:

OPENING SENTENCES: (based on Psalm 16)

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

You show me the path of life; in your hands are pleasures forevermore.

PRAYER:

HYMN:

"The Day Of Resurrection!"

1. ***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.***
2. ***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.***
3. ***Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth her song begin! Let The round world keep triumph, and all that is therein! Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.***

LITANY FOR EASTER:

This is the Good News we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

From the devastating sacrifice and the armies of the enemy.

O Lord, deliver us.

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives. In faith, hope, and trust, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Risen Lord, you have breathed the Spirit upon us, and sent us forth to testify to what we have heard and seen. Yet we resist this calling, huddling behind locked doors rather than stepping out with confidence. We yearn for more—more proof, more courage, more guidance, more faith—and forget that you have given us all we need: the gift of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from fear and send us forth to proclaim: "We have seen the Lord!" Amen.

SILENCE:

Friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us.

In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God.

That is a promise of peace and joy, the peace we can with one another and with the world.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: " Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" v.1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. Amen.

FIRST READING:

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL READING:

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

CHILDREN’S TIME:

MESSAGE:

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER:

HYMN:

“Thine Is The Glory”

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the vict’ry 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 vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won!

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb! Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom; let His church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting!

Refrain- Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won!

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught 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.

Refrain- Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won!

CLOSING SENTENCES: (from: Stages On The Way; Worship Resources For Lent and Easter)

I expected him to scold me, not-as you might think-for doubting.

We had all doubted, at different times, and he was never angry.

Indeed, he doubted himself, sometimes, or if he didn't he certainly understood how it felt, because he would sing the Psalms of doubt a lot.

Doubt wasn't an enemy to him, He could stand us doubting. It was indifference he couldn't stand: indifference and apathy.

I expected him to scold me because I wasn't there when he came. The others were present, I was absent.

It wasn't their fault, or his. It was mine. I had-for whatever the reason-decided that it was finished.

He came back to say it was all beginning. I expected him to scold me.

But he didn't. He gave me his hand and, more than that, he gave me his peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, to share the peace of the Lord with a world that needs it desperately.

Amen.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER MEMBERS Tony & Mary Andersen & family, Renea Anderson & Garrett, Kathy Angerman, Elgerd & Marlyn Arnett, Jeff Arnett, Jeff & Becky Bainbridge

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS Gary Hacker (4/23)

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES Gary & Alice Hacker (4/20)

FAITH UNITED PRESBYTERIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

WFAM No WFAM until fall.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL until fall.