

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CALDWELL

Sunday March 31, 2024

10:00 AM

Easter Sunday

GATHERING TOGETHER TO WORSHIP THE LORD

REFLECTION

“Jesus comes to us as a presence that reaches beyond our mind’s overt powers of knowing and touches our lives in ways we cannot see. God is known in the muscle memory of our tissue, in the turn of lip in that garden smile, in the slang-tinged voice of a trusted friend, in the fall of the foot’s arch in wet grass at sunrise.”

Serene Jones, Feasting on the Word

PRELUDE

“Canzone”

Gabrieli

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (As a Litany for Easter)

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*HYMN NO. 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death.

We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, God of mercy.

Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

All of us, like sheep, have gone astray, but now we have returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE AFTER ASSURANCE

“Glory Be to the Father”

GLORIA PATRI

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.

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share the peace of Christ with one another.

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

Page 613, OT

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Coronation”

Craig Courtney

GOSPEL READING

John 20:1-18

Page 108, NT

SERMON

“Have You Seen the Lord?”

Rev. Chris Houtz

*HYMN NO. 238

“Thine Is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition will end by saying, “Living God, **hear our prayer.**”

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lift High the Cross”

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

RESPONSE TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF GREAT 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.

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Haugen

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL

“Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen”

Haugen

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

AMEN

“Amen”

Haugen

THE LORD’S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us you make yourself known in the
breaking of the bread. Let us now go forth from this place, fed at your table and filled
by the Spirit, to walk with you all the days of our lives, and proclaim the glory of your
resurrection to all the world. Amen.**

SENDING US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 246

“Christ Is Alive!”

TRURO

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Jubilate Coeli”

Taize

POSTLUDE

“O Filii et Filiae”

Lynwood Farnam

**** Please rise in body or in spirit***

*The special music today is given to the Glory of God.... through a donation
in loving memory of Sandra Lopus-Harvey*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Chris Houtz, Pastor, Head of Staff
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music
FPC Chancel Choir ~ FPC Handbell Choir
Taylor Goodson, Percussionist
Gramercy Brass—James de la Garza , Matthew Timm, Rob Fournuer, Frederico Perez
Ray Liptak, AV Engineer—Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer
Matthew Califf & Michael Sperrazza, AV Team