

April 1, 2018

Eleven O'clock

**Easter Sunday  
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

**WELCOME**

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we are honored that you have chosen to worship today at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel welcome here and inspired. May you be strengthened by the power of God to meet the challenges of your daily life.

**GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*We begin worship with the musical prelude and lighting of the candles, reminding us of Christ's presence with us. Please use this time to make the transition from getting here to being here. If you would like to add a flower to the cross, please do so as you prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

PRELUDE *Because He Lives* William Gaither  
Honey Kim, violin

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This is the good news: the tomb is empty; Christ is risen!

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: This is the good news: the light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: This is the good news: once we were no people; now we are God's people.

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: Christ is alive. May his peace and presence be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

**\*THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*Please share the peace of Christ with one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you."  
And responding, "And also with you."*

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 232** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION\*\***

One: When the Sabbath was over, the women brought spices so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.

**All: We are resigned to the world as it is;  
We do not dare to dream it might be any different.**

One: They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

**All: We are reluctant to rely on others,  
seeking to be self-sufficient instead of building a  
supportive community.**

One: When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

**All: We give up on hope so easily,  
we do not expect God to do anything incredible.**

One: As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

**All: Fear holds us back: fear of loss, fear of difference, fear of failure, fear of death, instead of faith in the promises of God.**

One: But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here."

**All: He is not here.**

**He has been raised. Forgive us, God, for our disbelief—  
for seeing an empty tomb and thinking a cruel trick;  
for hearing words of life but keeping them to ourselves.  
By your grace, strengthen our faith, and help us believe  
the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

KYRIE 576 *Lord, Have Mercy* SINGAPURA  
*Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, on us.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*GLORIA 589** *Alleluia* HONDURAS ALLELUIA  
*Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord has risen indeed.*

**PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**

FOCUS ON CHILDREN Patti Winter

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 25:6-9

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Zion Hears the Watchman* J.S. Bach  
Honey Kim, Violin solo

**\*GOSPEL READING** Mark 16:1-8

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Rise Up* Rev. Cat Goodrich

**DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN 611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

FOCUS ON MISSION One Great Hour of Sharing

**WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS\*\*\***

*Part of your offering today is the gift of your presence.  
Please acknowledge your presence by signing the welcome book at the end of your row.*

OFFERTORY *Easter (from Five Mystical Songs)* Vaughn Williams  
(Jeff Hairell, Baritone)

**\*THE DOXOLOGY 606**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise....**

One: We join our voices with the faithful of every time and place who forever give glory to your name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven  
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest....**

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

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

**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.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*We are serving communion by intinction today. There are two stations at the front of the sanctuary. Please come to the station nearest you, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and eat. Gluten free, dairy free bread is in a small dish on each plate.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD**

**\*HYMN 246** *Christ is Alive!* TRURO

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Halleluia Chorus (from Messiah)* GF Handel

**\*POSTLUDE** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* Michael Thomas

\*Please stand as you are able.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LET THE BELLS PLAY!** Our 37-bell Rushton Memorial Carillon was the first such instrument in Birmingham and the third in the United States, when installed in 1924.

**WE WELCOME GUESTS** and celebrate that you are worshiping with us today. Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. If you are returning to a distant home, we wish you the Lord's grace and a safe journey. However, if you live in the area and are seeking a faith community, we hope you will return soon so that we may get to know you better. To learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service, visit us on the web at [www.fpcbham.org](http://www.fpcbham.org). May God's peace and blessing be with you.

**IF YOU ARE SEEKING A CHURCH HOME**, our Session meets on the *first Sunday of the month* in the Chapel following the 11:00 worship service to welcome new members. If you are looking for a faith community, we hope you will make First your home.

**FOR CHILDREN:** Children's bags and bulletins are available in the Narthex (ushers can locate them for you). Please empty and return the bags after worship. While all children are welcome in worship, the following alternatives also are available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. After the *Focus on Children*, children ages 3-7 will go to the balcony, where they experience a little of what worship is like while doing learning activities related to the scripture with coloring, puzzles, books, children's bulletins and more. When the sacraments of the Lord's Supper or Baptism are celebrated, children will return to the sanctuary. We invite those in second grade and above to remain in the sanctuary and participate in the entire worship service.

**OPPORTUNITY INSERT** Please use the Opportunity Insert to relay information to the church office, including reservations for church events. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office, fold the insert and put it in the offering plate.

**SERMONS** are available from our website at [www.fpcbham.org](http://www.fpcbham.org).

The **FLOWERS** in the church today have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William J. Rushton II (1900-1987) and his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Perry Rushton (1906-1972), both loyal and giving members of this church, by their sons.

The **LITURGIST** for today is Scott Pierce

The **ACOLYTES** for today are Dannah and John Hinton Lane

\*\* adapted from Rev. Scott A. Resson, Minister for Worship, Music, and Liturgical Arts, Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ.

\*\*\*If you would like to make a gift electronically, scan here to be directed to our online giving site:



*Have you remembered the church in your will?*

## MISSION CENTERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**FIRST LIGHT, INC.** is a mission center of FPC, giving shelter and support services for homeless women and children. If you would like to help, speak to our pastors or call Ruth Crosby, Executive Director (323-4277). First Light's website: [www.firstlightshelter.org](http://www.firstlightshelter.org)

**RUTH AND NAOMI SENIOR OUTREACH (RNSO)** has as its mission to become spiritual companions to isolated older adults and to call, equip, and support others to do so as well. Contact [chaplain@ruthandnaomi.org](mailto:chaplain@ruthandnaomi.org).

**THE RUSHTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER** provides quality childcare in a loving, nurturing environment – accredited by NAEYC and licensed by the Department of Human Resources. Call the CDC office at 322-8310. The Center's website is [www.eprcdc.com](http://www.eprcdc.com)

**FAITH IN ACTION ALABAMA**, a faith-based community-organizing effort FPC shares with faith communities throughout the city, works to improve quality of life for all our citizens. Faith in Action is a PICO network affiliate and can be reached at [daniel@faal.org](mailto:daniel@faal.org).

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION** provides support to First Presbyterian Church for the maintenance and upkeep of this historic sacred space built in 1889. 10% of the Foundation's annuity payment aids mission selected by session. Contact Mark Aldridge for more information.

THE REV. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Pastor and Acting Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE OLIVER, Interim Associate Pastor

THE REV. JIM STANFORD, Parish Associate

MR. KYLE CRIDER, Acting Administrator

MS. LAURA H. ROBERTSON, Secretary

MS. DEBBIE BOONE, Bookkeeper

MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education

DR. TIMOTHY THOMAS, Director of Music

DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Organist

MS. JULIE POTTS, Youth Director

MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton

THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus