Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

God of Love, Risen Christ,
you come to us and often we are bewildered.
Come to us anyway.
Come and speak to us, give us your peace,
and send us by your Spirit, according to your word,
to do your will in the world.
We open our hearts to you,
in the name and Spirit of Christ. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Pastorale Ned Rorem

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Nick Lindley

God summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Every time we encounter beauty, God's perfection shines forth, calling to us

God's revelation is a devouring fire, burning away our doubts.

The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is the creator, the redeemer and the judge.

*SONG OF PRAISE Christ Is Alive Hymnal, No. 246

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

We pray together in confession and lament:

Risen One,

we confess our silence amid the persecution of others, silence that has often complied with oppression and brought harm. What can we do to eradicate poverty, hunger, and homelessness? Help us to hear your voice above all others, and teach us how to care for our neighbor, feed the hungry, and clothe and care for those in need, for as we do these things unto one another, we do them also unto you.

(Time of silent reflection)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory To God

Hymnal, No. 582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen (x3)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Trudy Beard

SCRIPTURE READING

I John 3:1-7 Page No. 990

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"

You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:36b-48 Page No. 861

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE We Are Witnesses Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH Fairest Lord Jesus Hymnal, No. 630

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Col. 1:15–20

Life in Christ is life eternal.

The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment

the new life begun in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response: ... By your grace, O God, raise us from death to life.

LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal, p. 35

Please pray the Lord's Prayer

in the language and wording most familiar to you.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Go in Grace and Make Disciples Hymnal, No. 296

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Voluntary in C Richard Peek

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for April 21: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18.

The Food & Shelter item of the month for April is juice. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

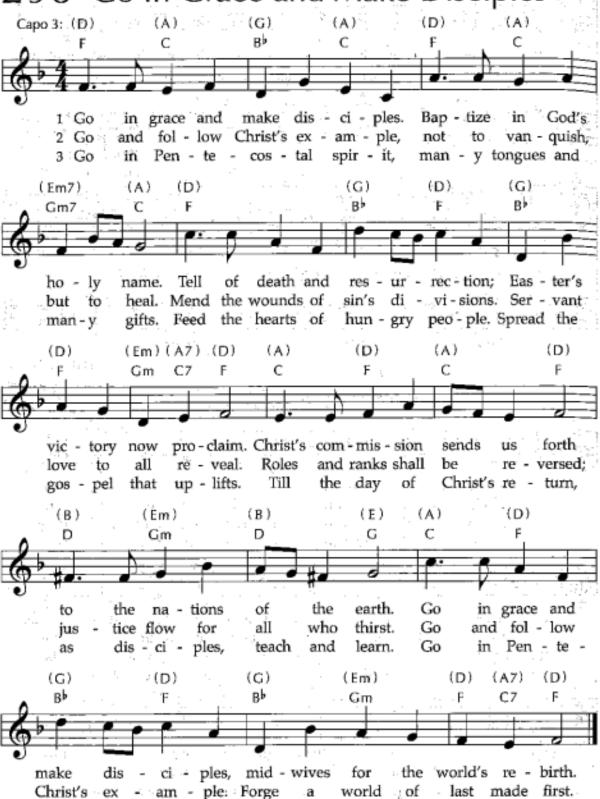
Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Christ Is Alive!





296 Go in Grace and Make Disciples



spir - it: let God's flame of wit - ness burn.

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