

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024
10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We live in the radiance of your glory.

Our worship comes from the gladness you have put in our hearts.

We give you thanks for the peace of your salvation.

Oh, hear the joy of our praise for your grace and mercy.

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 238

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The One who calls us to repent, hears us. In trust that our Creator knows us through and through, let us open our hearts to the healing of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**What love you have given us, O God, that we should be called your children.
What love you have given us, O Christ, that we should share a table with you.
Forgive us when we act as if we were your only children: when we do not
recognize your image in the faces of strangers, enemies, or friends; when we
do not share our own tables, forgetting that we need each other. Forgive us, O
Christ, maker of peace, and teach us to follow in your way.**

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 2:17, 21

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

**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.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 39)

FAITHFULNESS

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto thee!**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, by your Spirit reveal your radical, surprising love; come to us through your holy word and let us hear what you are saying. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 4 (OT p.490) A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**
Acts 3:12-19 (NT p.120) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Luke 24:36b-48 (NT p.90) The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Boulware Mission

Gary Estes

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Be Thou My Vision
Linda Cole, Oboe

arr. Pederson

Give us your vision, Lord, this is our prayer, Oh, help us to see when the way is not clear.
Gift us with wisdom and lead us we pray, let grace be our calling, our strength for today.

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sung by all:

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. Hosanna in the highest! *The prayer continues.*

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. Ushers will guide you forward to partake by taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Prepackaged gluten-free elements are available in the baskets near the communion stations.

Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, O God, for giving us communion with our risen and glorious Lord. Now send us out to be a sign of the new life that has come into the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 295

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Patti Price*

Communion Servers: *Creda Heffelfinger & Jerry Price*

Worship & Wonder: *Susan Godthaab*



We welcome **Rev. Matthew Covington** back to our pulpit today. Matthew recently retired after 21 years of serving as pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky. He has served the Presbytery of Western Kentucky in numerous ways, as Moderator of the Presbytery, as Moderator of the Commission on Ministry, as a Commissioner to General Assembly, and as Chair of the task force to rewrite the Presbytery's Manual of Operations. Matthew and his wife Ann met as students at Davidson College. They have two daughters, and three grandchildren.

The Life of the Church

FPC101: We Are The Church Together is a class for people who are interested in learning more about what our church is all about. This might mean people who have visited a few times or people who have been members for many years! This class, led by Jeff Moles, will meet on four Sunday evenings at 4:00 P.M.:

- April 14: Worship & Beliefs (held in the Sanctuary)
- April 21: Education & Discipleship (held in the Men's Bible Class room)
- April 28: Discernment & Order (held in the Gardenside Parlor)
- May 5: Fellowship & Mission (held in Fellowship Hall)

We will be happy to provide childcare upon request. Please contact Jeff (jeff@fpcobky.com) at least a week in advance to arrange this.

An Extended Table Lunch will be held today after worship in Fellowship Hall. Food will be provided. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$25 max/ family.

FPC Educational Scholarship Applications are due by the end of the day today, Sunday, April 14. Scholarships are for undergraduate students who are active in the life of First Presbyterian Church and enrolled full-time in any accredited college or university. The application is available in Presbnotes or you may email jeff@fpcobky.com to learn more.

A Used Book Fair is planned for Saturday, May 4, 9 A.M.-4 P.M. All funds raised will benefit our partners at the Boulware Mission. We are collecting donations of used books on a table in the main hallway.

The Church Library is undergoing an update to make it a more accessible and useful resource. If there is an item in the library that you would like to see remain on the shelves or handled in a particular way, the Christian Education wants to know. There are instructions on the library table on how to communicate this information.

Financial Update Our ministry is funded by the giving of members and friends. Thank you for your generosity.

Year (through Mar 31)

Income: \$131,475.91

Expense: \$139,205.24

Balance: -\$ 7,729.33

Month of March

Income: \$30,586.13

Expense: \$44,638.73

Balance: -\$14,052.60

Week Ending Apr. 12

Income: \$10,029.87

Expense: \$17,904.82

Balance: -\$7,874.95



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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fpcobky

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Matt Curry
Pastor

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian
Education & Mission;
Organist

Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries

Dennis Jewett
Director of Music

Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant

Dylan Schroader
Custodian

Mary Alice Carrico
Staff Accountant