

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 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

Glory to you, O God:

**You have won victory over death,
raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life.**

Glory to you, O Christ:

**For us and for our salvation you overcame death
and opened the gate to everlasting life.**

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit:

You lead us into the truth.

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 246

Christ is Alive

TRURO

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Stephanie Dube

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

Rom. 8:26

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with signs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we come celebrating our unity, but we confess the many ways that we are divided. Our nationality, ethnic origin, economic status, gender, age, and political identity all too often obscure the common calling we share in Christ's name. May our common identity as your children and our communal witness to Christ bind us together in your name. Forgive our tendency toward separation and division, and remind us that we are your Easter people.

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 817)

DUNLAP'S CREEK

**We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith be bound
To call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133 (OT p.575) A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

Acts 4:32-35 (NT p.122) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

I Choose Love

Mark Miller

Written in response to the 2015 killings at Mother Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston

*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

Here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work—only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 157

I Danced in the Morning

LORD OF THE DANCE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Marilyn Ericksen*

Communion Servers: *Patti Price & Brad Smith*

Worship & Wonder: *Marsha Nash*

We welcome **Rev. Matthew Covington** to our pulpit today. Matthew recently retired after 20 years of serving as pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

The Life of the Church

Experience the Solar Eclipse with us! We will be taking a road trip to Henderson tomorrow to view the total solar eclipse. Meet in the back parking lot at 12:15 P.M. if you would like to caravan to the Presbyterian Church of Henderson. Limited space on the church bus will be available. Bring a chair and some eclipse glasses if you have them.

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
- April 21: Education & Discipleship
- April 28: Discernment & Order
- May 5: Fellowship & Mission

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

FPC Educational Scholarship Applications are due next 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 Presbynotes or you may email jeff@fpcobky.com to learn more.

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

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 (to date)

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



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

1328 Griffith Avenue
Owensboro, Kentucky
270.684.1467
fpcobky.com



FPCOwensboro



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