

The  
Resurrection  
of the  
Lord

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024  
10:30 A.M.

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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## THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Prelude in C*

attr. J.S. Bach

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

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 the good news to the world.

**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 232

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

*During the processional hymn, the items removed during Holy Week are returned to the sanctuary and the communion table is set.*

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Brightness of God's glory and exact image of God's person, whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison, as you have shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in the Spirit. Let no shadow of the grave terrify us, and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days, as the first and the last, the Living One, our immortal Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

CHORAL INTROIT

*Christ is Risen!*

Jan Sanborn

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

May God be with you in worship here.

**May God be with you in worship there.**

*There is no Worship and Wonder today. Children may return to sit with their families.*

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

*Thomas Merton*

**My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.**

**I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end.**

**Nor do I really know myself,**

**And the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.**

**But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you**

**And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.**

**I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.**

**And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road**

**Though I may know nothing about it.**

**Therefore I will trust you always**

**Though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.**

**I will not fear, for you are ever with me,**

**And you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.**

*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.**

\*HYMN 244

*This Joyful Eastertide* (vs. 1 & 2)

VRUECHTEN

## 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

Psalms 131                      A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

Mark 16:1-8                      The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

“The Opposite of Certainty”

Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## THE EUCHARIST

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING     *Alleluia! For Christ the Lord is Risen*

J.S. Bach

Blessing, honor, power, and might be to God and to the Lamb. Christ is risen from the dead!

\*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.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Sheep May Safely Graze*

J.S. Bach

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Gracious God, we give you thanks that by the witness of your word and the sharing of this meal you have opened our hearts and eyes to the presence of Christ among us. Now send us forth from this place by the power of your Spirit to tell this good news to the world: The Lord has risen indeed! Amen.**

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN 260

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Improvisation on "The Strife is O'er"*

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

## LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus* | Liturgist: *Patti Price*  
Communion Servers: *Debbie Hutchinson & Mary Lou Taylor*

## MUSICIANS

Paula Humphreys, Flute  
Linda Cole, Oboe  
Ben Goodwin, Cello

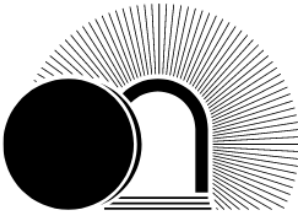
The First Presbyterian Church Choir  
Dennis Jewett, Music Director | Jeff Moles, Organist



# Welcome!

We are thankful for your presence with us today. If you are visiting and in search of a church home, we would love to talk with you about our faith community. Please reach out to the church office for more information (270-864-1467 or [office@fpcobky.com](mailto:office@fpcobky.com)). You can sign up for our weekly email newsletter on our website, [fpcobky.com](http://fpcobky.com), to learn more about what is happening in the life of First Presbyterian Church.

Diversity is a gift we embrace that helps us understand the fullness of God. Therefore, First Presbyterian Church seeks to welcome all people into the life and leadership of our congregation regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status, mental or physical ability.



*The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.*

*This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

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

PSALM 118:22-24

## The Life of the Church

We welcome **Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus** to the pulpit today. Laurie serves as Director of Humanitarian and Global Ecumenical Engagement in the national offices of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

**FPC Educational Scholarship Applications** are now open for the 2024-2025 school year. 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](mailto:jeff@fpcobky.com) to learn more.

**Spirit Lifters** will be eating out on Wednesday, April 3, at 5:30 P.M. at the Miller House. Please let Jerry Price know if you will be attending. All are welcome!

**Hearing Assistance Devices** are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

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

<b>Year (through Feb.)</b>	<b>Month to Date</b>	<b>Week Ending Mar. 24</b>
Income: \$100,889.78	Income: \$21,017.62	Income: \$ 2,321.95
<u>Expense: \$ 94,566.51</u>	<u>Expense: \$44,613.73</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 11,978.54</u>
Balance: \$ 6,323.27	Balance: -\$23,596.11	Balance: -\$ 9,656.59

# EASTER FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In Honor of Kate & Hewlett Bell and  
In Memory of Maxine & Jerry Price  
BY JERRY & GLENDA PRICE

In Memory of Paul E. Oakley  
BY DENNIS JEWETT

In Memory of my mother Barbara Grimes  
BY DEBBIE HUTCHINSON

In Memory of my aunt Rose Grimes Stenson  
BY DEBBIE HUTCHINSON

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Preuss  
BY DON PREUSS

In Memory of Rick Sears  
BY MADELINE HOWELL

In Memory of Shelly Blair Hahn  
BY JANA WOODSIDE

In Memory of Karen Doyle Sanders  
BY VAUGHN G. SANDERS

In Memory of Joyce & Frank Faith  
BY PATRICIA SMEATHERS

In Memory of W. Dale Guyer, Jr.  
BY SUZANNE GUYER

In Memory of Lois Edine Traylor & John  
Thomas Townsend,  
Anna Dean Townsend Tudor, and  
Dayton Hicks Heffelfinger, Sr.  
BY CRED A HEFFELFINGER

In Memory of Brian Loucks  
BY JOHN & MARNA LOUCKS

In Memory of my parents,  
Mary Jane & Harris Shevelson  
and my brother, Ned Shevelson  
BY MARY LOU TAYLOR

In Memory of Mimi Davis  
BY BRETT DAVIS

In Memory of Jane Stevenson  
BY BRETT DAVIS

In Memory of Cindy Bickett  
BY TAMARA WARREN & MARILYN ERICKSEN

In Memory of Ritzy Ericksen  
BY TAMARA WARREN & MARILYN ERICKSEN

In Memory of Pam "Mimi" Kirtley  
BY CHRIS, ALLISON, KIRTLEY, AND ALEX BATES

In Memory of J.T. & Wanda Bates  
BY CHRIS, ALLISON, KIRTLEY, AND ALEX BATES

In Memory of Mary Louise Kirtley  
and Elisabeth "Aunt Boo" Gasser  
BY CHRIS, ALLISON, KIRTLEY, AND ALEX BATES

In Honor of Bob "Papa" Kirtley  
BY CHRIS, ALLISON, KIRTLEY, AND ALEX BATES





We Are The Church  
**TOGETHER**

# FPC 101

You are invited to join us for **FPC 101**, a class designed for:

- People interested in joining our church
- Members who have joined in the past few years
- Long-time members who would like a refresher on what it means to be Presbyterian
- Anyone who wants to learn more about First Presbyterian Church



**Sundays, April 14 - May 5 4:00-5:30 P.M.**

Led by Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission

## CLASS TOPICS

- April 14: Worship and Beliefs
- April 21: Education and Discipleship
- April 28: Discernment and Order
- May 5: Fellowship and Mission

Childcare will be provided upon request. Contact Jeff ([jeff@fpcobky.com](mailto:jeff@fpcobky.com)) to arrange this at least a week in advance.

FEBRUARY 14 – MARCH 31, 2024

75  
YEARS



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT



HOUSE RESTORATION - MILLAT

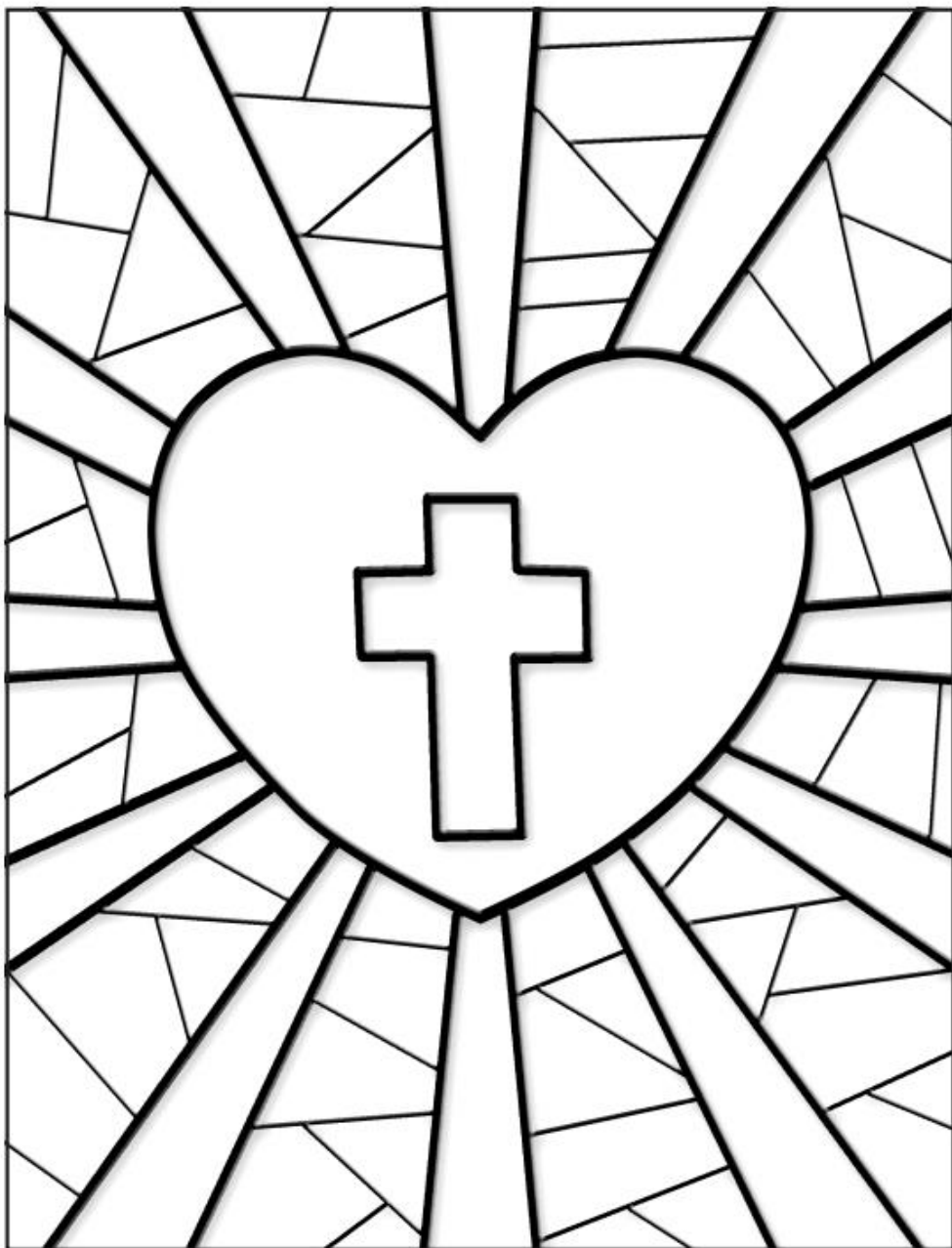
Today, we join with Presbyterians around the church in the One Great Hour of Sharing. Each gift to this special offering helps improve the lives of the suffering and vulnerable through three life-saving programs:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Hunger Program

and the Self-Development of People.

Please give generously using the envelope in your bulletin or by marking your contribution “One Great Hour of Sharing.” If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!





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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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