

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to today's worship service. We are delighted that you are here. If you are visiting, we invite you to join by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, or by transfer. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Patricia Taylor	Organist
Jackson Weller	Liturgist
Jackie Rochford	Security, side door and offering
Kim Meadows	Greeter
Brenna Takata and Lorraine Willeford	Sunday School

First Presbyterian Church

April 16, 2023

11 a.m.



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A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

As you enter the sanctuary please end your conversations and respect those worshippers who seek quiet time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all electronic devices. If you need a hearing assistance device, please request one from the usher. Remaining seated is as worshipful a posture as standing. Please worship in a way that is comfortable for you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” arr: P Keveren

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is the Resurrection and the Life,
Even though we die, we believe, and we have life.
Death will not have the final word,
For Christ has shown us the way of life eternal.
For truly as we have cared for the least among us,
We have cared for and loved Christ himself.
We enter this time of worship together,
Living in the way, the truth, and the life of Christ Jesus.

INVOCATION

Holy God, Creator of Life, you call us out of our dark places, offering us the grace of new life. When we see nothing but hopelessness, you surprise us with the breath of your spirit.

Call us out of our complacency and routines, set us free from our self-imposed bonds, and fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and peace, In the name of Jesus, your anointed one, we pray. Amen.

~ written by Nancy Johnson

HYMN “We Come to You for Healing, Lord” GTG#796

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday (4/18)	Bell Choir at 5 p.m. Ladies Night Out Supper at 6 p.m.
Wednesday (4/19)	Wednesday Night Dinner at 6 p.m. Youth Activities from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Thursday (4/20)	Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at 5 p.m.
Saturday (4/22)	Saturday Lunch Ministry at 11:30 a.m.

“Eden’s Song”

O *Waly Waly* tune, arr. Mark Schweizer (1956-2019)

Text by Beverly Easterling (b. 1949)

A memory of Eden stirs, and walks within the warmth of spring.
It whispers ev’ry hope God has to Life Eternal, listening.

Stretch past the gloom of winter’s grey; unfurl by faith and not by sight,
To touch the light of length’ning day that calls thee forth to green delight.

The season of new growth begins, embrace the promise we all share,
Lift ev’ry voice and celebrate, the Living God, who’s always there.

The text of this anthem celebrates the beauty of creation and is particularly fitting for April, the designated “Earth month.” It is also deeply rooted in reformed theology. Easterling points out that our eternal souls share the life God breathed into humankind at creation, and God is always present with us. As a “season of new growth” begins with green leaves on the trees, our church begins a season of renewal in so many ways - new flooring, a new organ console, and continued stewardship of all our instruments, libraries, and facilities. It is a tangible blessing to stretch and grow spiritually as God calls us out of winter and into another spring.

*The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of*

James McCorkle Turner, Jr. (Jimbo)

*by his parents: Anne T. Geyer and James M. Turner, and his sisters:
Elizabeth, Jane Scott, and Peyton, along with their families.*

UNISON PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

Great God, creator of all things: we give you thanks for your Word, through whom all things came into being and in whom there is life and light for all people. We confess that we have shunned the light and sought the darkness. We confess that we have been slow to receive him and hesitant to believe in his name. Lord, have mercy upon us! Help us to see the glory of the Word become flesh. From the fullness of his grace and truth, let us receive grace upon grace. Grant us power to become children of God. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Word of God. Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Light has come to you. Your light has come and it has erased the darkness. Now we can walk and work in the light. You are loved by God and called to God's service. AMEN.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet each other with cupped hands filled with God’s blessings and remain standing for the “Gloria Patri”.

RESPONSE

“Gloria Patri”

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.

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children should come forward for a blessing as they leave with their teachers)

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Lord our Savior, we praise you for your constant care. We are grateful that you have claimed us as your own, that we belong to you as part of your people. Thank you for drawing us to this congregation where we share in worship and study, friendship and service with others who love you. Let our lives be useful for your purposes. We gladly give our tithes and offerings as a sign of the joy you give us, to share with the world. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

OFFERTORY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

L. Mason/arr. Berry

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM

"Eden's Song"

B. Easterling/arr. M. Schweizer

About the Anthem: *O Waly Waly* is a traditional English folk tune that likely originated as a love song in the early 1700s. Southern American composer Hal H. Hopson chose this tune in 1971 for his canticle setting of 1 Corinthians 13, "The Gift of Love." Beverly Easterling is a writer and voice teacher in Louisiana who is also a popular lyricist; she contributed to the 1982 Episcopal hymnal. Composer Mark Schweizer collaborated with Easterling for this two-part setting. Originally from Florida, Schweizer was well known in our area as the previous editor of the St. James Music Press in Tryon, North Carolina.

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:1–14, John 11:1–54 (ESV)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"The Unbinding"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." And then he asked, "Do you believe this?"

Yes, Lord, we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.

And Jesus said, "No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. I tell you the truth; he who believes has everlasting life."

Lord, we affirm that you have given us everlasting life.

Jesus said, "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out. Those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned."

Lord, our hope is in you, for only in you can we find the hope of eternal life.

Brothers and sisters, what do you believe?

We believe in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from John 5, 6, 8 and 11, and the Apostles' Creed)

HYMN:

"There Is A Redeemer"

GTG#443

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord, The Almighty"

arr. P. Keveren

BENEDICTION