

Worship for the Lord's Day 3rd Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024 8:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"Christ Lag in Todesbanden"

Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR FELLOWSHIP

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT (Hymn No. 1 vs. 1)
"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

Rev. 4:8-11

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 5:6-8)

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

People: You have put gladness in our hearts, more than when grain and wine abound.

All: We will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make us lie down in safety.

^{*}Please stand if able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we fall short, we fail, and we sometimes feel overwhelmed by our fears and uncertainties. Forgive us when our courage falters and we fail to do the right, when confronted by opposition. We know you understand our human dilemma. Lord, make our doubts part of our faith stories. Lord, make our uncertainties, a place from which we hunger more for you. Give us the courage to rise when you call us to stand and be counted.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*Romans 8:1 - from The Message*)

With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved. Those who enter into Christ's "being here for us" no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud. A new power is in operation. The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing us from the tyranny of sin and death!

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THE PASSING OF PEACE

Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we are called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to greet one another with words and signs of peace.)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 4

¹Answer 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. ²How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah* ³ But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him. ⁴When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah* ⁵ Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord. ⁶ There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!" ⁷ You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. ⁸ I will both lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 24:36-49

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be

fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

"While They Still Disbelieved" Dr. Emily Cope

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Stewardship remains a part of what we do about what we believe. Please mail your offering by check to the church, or send it electronically via the "Give Now" button at the top of our homepage. If you are attending services in person, you can place your offering in the red boxes or in the plate, as the ushers come down the center aisles.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn No. 37)

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God our Creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing
With glad adoration, a song let us raise;
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN UNISON

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

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*HYMN No. 263, vs. 1 & 4 "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" CORONATION

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Three-fold Amen"

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on Coronation"

Assisting in worship today: Emma Sirico

Peace Pearl: A heart at peace gives life to the body.

| Next Sunda | ay, April 21, 2024 Creation Sunday |
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| 8:30 a.mServi | ce for the Lord's Day with Communion |
| 9:40 a.m | Sunday School/Adult Education |
| 10:45 a.m | Service for the Lord's Day |

Ways to Contact FPC

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