



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2020



SERVING THIS MORNING:
Music Director: Dr. Greg Turner
Worship Leader: Tammy Helm
Vocalist: Jackie Allison

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PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;

and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our lives.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY:

God of signs and wonders,

you have revealed to us that

Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior.

Strengthen our faith,

that we may have life in Christ's name. **Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN:

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

#289

- 1. Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled -
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.*
- 2. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
see the ancient powers of evil in confusion and retreat;
once he died, and once was buried: now he lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.*
- 3. Christ is risen, we are risen! Set your hearts on things above;
there in all the Father's glory lives and reigns our King of love;
hear the word of peace he brings us, see his wounded hands and side!
Now let every wrong be ended, every sin be crucified.*
- 4. Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia to the Triune Majesty.*

*CALL TO CONFESSION:

God has been made known to us

in deeds of power, signs, and wonders,

and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

God, you have made known to us the ways of life.
Yet, too often, we put other things above you
and turn away from the ways of life
and toward the ways of death.
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,
that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#377

O Lord, have mercy, O Lord have mercy,
O Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ have mercy, O Christ have mercy,
O Christ have mercy, have mercy on us.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

My friends, God is our refuge
and will not abandon us.
In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God.
That is a promise of peace and joy;
share that peace with one another.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us offer and receive the peace of Christ as a sign of
God's grace and assurance of forgiveness.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(Take a moment to share Christ's peace by greeting those around you.)

***SUNG RESPONSE**

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Resurrecting God,
in a doubting world,
keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for the church universal.
Breathe on us your Holy Spirit,
that we may honor and pass on
the great inheritance we have received.
Keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for Mother Earth,
that we may touch her wounds
with healing care and love.
Keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for the whole world,
its nations, its leaders, and its people,
that your wisdom and peace may prevail.
Keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for all those in need,
the suffering, the oppressed, the ill, the dying,
and all those who care for them.
Keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.
Keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for those near to us who need your strength and healing...(prayer cards)

Blessed are you, O God,
who through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,
and in the community of the Holy Spirit,
gives us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading,
now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Guiding God,
send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word
that it may serve to show us the path of life
and lead us into your presence
where there is fullness of joy. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 1:8-9

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

SECOND READING: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." ²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON:

"All That We Have Not Seen"

Rev. Dr Jared Witt

***A Brief Statement of Faith (1983):**

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one true God, the holy One of Israel,
Whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by the word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal...**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY:

**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.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Generous God,
you are our portion and our cup.
In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest.
Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges
that they may bring the joy of your presence
more deeply into the world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:**

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

#293

1. *Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.*

2. *Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.*

3. *Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: “Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, every one!*

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

HOUSEHOLD PRAYERS

MORNING

Holy One, you have made known to me the ways of life
and have promised to fill me with the gladness of your presence.
Keep me mindful of your guidance and your promise
as I travel through this day,
that my heart may be glad. Amen.

EVENING

Thank you, God, for giving me your counsel today.
Tonight, as I sleep, may the dreams of my heart
also serve to instruct me in your ways.
In you I have a good heritage,
and my heart, my soul, and my body rest in you. Amen.