

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
Easter Worship

APRIL 12, 2020

11:00 a.m.

GATHERING

GREETING AND RECLAIMING THE ALLELUIA

HYMN

*Alleluia*

(Refrain)

Alle, alle, Alle-lu-ia.

Alle, alle, Alle-lu-ia.

Alle, alle, Alle-lu-ia.

Alleluia, alle-lu-ia.

Praise God in this holy place, every nation, every race.

Come, make joyful music to the Lord.

Sound the trumpet, sound it clear. Sound it for the world to hear.

Come make joyful music to the Lord. (Refrain)

Everything that breathes now praise; sing your songs, let voices raise.

Come, make joyful music to the Lord.

Play the cymbals, play the lute; play the timbrel, play the flute.

Come, make joyful music to the Lord. (Refrain)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the good news – the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: This is the good news – the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: This is the good news – once we were no people; now we are God's people.

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

**People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

PRAYER

HYMN

*Morning Has Broken*

Morning has broken like the first morning; Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, Like the first dew-fall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, Born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silent

Unison

**Loving God, in sending Christ to earth and raising him from the grave you shattered the chains of sin and death. You freed us from the captivity of doubt and fear. Yet we confess that we do not share in the joy of that freedom. We confess that we bind ourselves to a path of darkness. Help us emerge into the light of your bright morning. Mold us into people of faith that we may spread the joy of your good news.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, was buried, and was raised on the third day.

**People: Through this good news we are being saved.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Praise God. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 20:1-18

HOMILY

*While It Was Still Dark*

Reverend Ayscue

HYMN

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

*Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

*Refrain*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

*Refrain*

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever.

*Refrain*

Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior.

A LITANY OF RESURRECTION

Leader: Three days ago our Lord was crucified.

**People: Darkness covered the face of the earth.**

Leader: Three days ago our Lord died for us.

**People: Darkness covered the face of the earth.**

Leader: Three days ago our Lord was taken from the cross and laid in a tomb blocked by a stone.

**People: Darkness covered the face of the earth.**

Leader: But today the stone has been rolled away. The son has risen!

**People: The new light of morning has overcome the darkness! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Drumheller

**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.**

HYMN

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our Heavenly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

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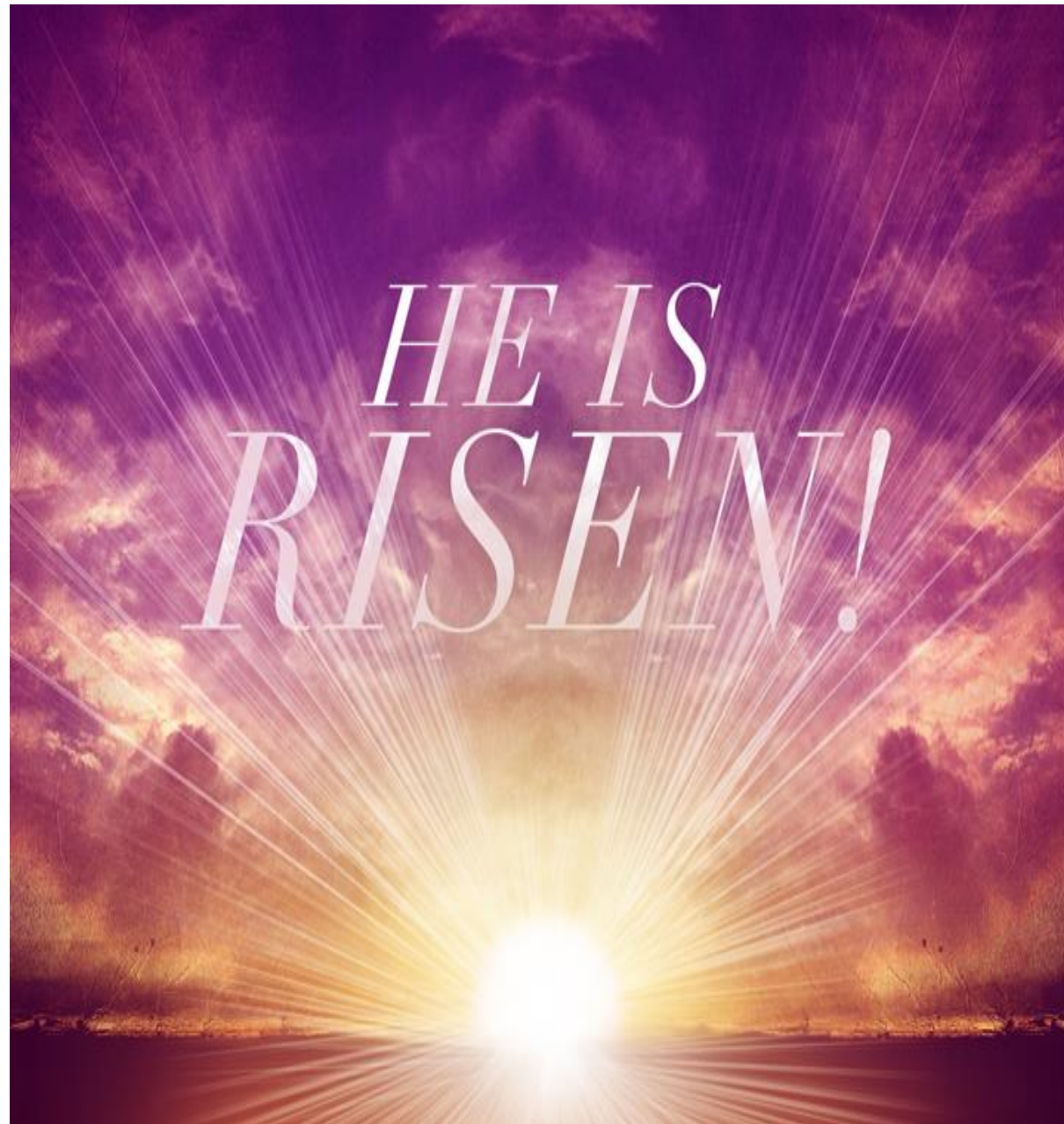
#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thanks to** Rebekah Ayscue, Skeet Ayscue, Bradley Eudy, Martha Sue Hall, Paul Hinkle, and Ken Knight for their musical leadership today.

**This week's worship video** will become available at 11:00 a.m. To access the worship video, go to the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) and click on the worship banner or search for the church on *YouTube* and click on the appropriate video.

**On Mondays and Wednesdays, Matt and Elizabeth will lead Morning Prayer** at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom. To access the meeting, go to the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) and click on the *Morning Prayer* banner. You can also find the link through the Facebook event.

**On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Matt and Elizabeth will livestream a brief devotional at 12:15 p.m.** To access the devotional, go to the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) and click on the *Digital Devotional* banner. If you are unable to watch it live, it will still be available through the church's *YouTube* page.



**EASTER WORSHIP 2020**