

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

March 31, 2024 at 10 am

*"Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?  
He isn't here! He is risen from the dead!" (Luke 24:5-6)*

## PRELUDE

*Bell Choir (Pachelbel's Canon in D)*

**"EARLY IN THE MORNING..."**

## WELCOME

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### **"CHRIST AROSE (LOW IN THE GRAVE HE LAY)"**

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior;  
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord.

*Up from the grave He arose,  
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;  
He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.  
He arose, He arose. Hallelujah, Christ arose.*

Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior;  
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord. *[Refrain]*

Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus my Savior;  
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord. *[Refrain]*

*"Christ Arose" by Robert Lowry,  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

Christ is risen:

**The spirits of evil have fallen.**

Christ is risen:

**The angels of God are rejoicing.**

Christ is risen:

**The tomb is empty and still.**

Christ has indeed arisen from the dead,  
the first of great harvest of all who have died.

**Glory and power are Christ's for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Adapted from St. Hippolytus of Rome (c. 170 - 235)*

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

*Katherine Bennett, Pat and Cindy Castle, Jeremy Ewald  
Hannah Heinonen, Starla Juergensen, Kathie Larson, Marianne Schindler*

### PASSING THE PEACE: THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

"He is risen!" "He is risen indeed!"

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#### ***"CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY"***

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Christ the Lord is risen today, *Alleluia!*  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, *Alleluia!*  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, *Alleluia!*  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, *Alleluia!*

Love's redeeming work is done, *Alleluia!*  
Fought the fight, the battle won, *Alleluia!*  
Death in vain forbids him rise, *Alleluia!*  
Christ has opened paradise, *Alleluia!*

Lives again our glorious King, *Alleluia!*  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? *Alleluia!*  
Once he died our souls to save, *Alleluia!*  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? *Alleluia!*

Soar we now where Christ has led, *Alleluia!*  
Following our exalted Head, *Alleluia!*  
Made like him, like him we rise, *Alleluia!*  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, *Alleluia!*

King of glory, soul of bliss, *Alleluia!*  
Everlasting life is this, *Alleluia!*  
Thee to know, thy power to prove, *Alleluia!*  
Thus to sing, and thus to love, *Alleluia!*

*"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" by Charles Wesley,  
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### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

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**Almighty God,  
through the rising of your Son from the grave,  
you broke the power of the grave,  
you broke the power of death,  
and condemned death itself to die.**

**As we celebrate this great triumph  
may we also make it the model for our living.**

**Help us to identify in our lives  
all that should rightly die—  
every word and action that violates your will,  
everything that dims the brightness of your grace,  
everything that prevents our taking delight in you.**

**Resurrect in our lives  
Faith,  
Hope,  
And Love  
as surely as you raised Jesus Christ from the grave.  
Amen.**

*After corporate prayer we will have a few moments of silence for personal confession.*

**CHOIR: "LIVING LAMB OF GOD"**

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**THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE**

*Sermon: "I Believe in the Resurrection"*

**Romans 6:1-11**

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? <sup>2</sup> Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? <sup>4</sup> For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

<sup>5</sup> Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. <sup>7</sup> For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. <sup>8</sup> And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. <sup>10</sup> When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. <sup>11</sup> So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

**1 Corinthians 15:19-23, 51-57**

if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

<sup>21</sup> So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. <sup>22</sup> Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. <sup>23</sup> But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back. . . .

But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! <sup>52</sup> It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. <sup>53</sup> For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.

<sup>54</sup> Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.

<sup>55</sup> O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

<sup>56</sup> For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup> But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

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*The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support our deacons’ provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.*

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### DOXOLOGY

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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. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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### “BECAUSE HE LIVES”

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God sent His son, they called Him Jesus  
He came to love, heal, and forgive.  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.*

*Because He lives, All fear is gone.*

*Because I know He holds the future,*

*And life is worth the living just because He lives.*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives.  
But greater still the calm assurance,  
This child can face uncertain days because He lives. [Refrain]

And then one day I’ll cross the river,  
I’ll fight life’s final war with pain.  
And then as death gives way to victory,  
I’ll see the lights of glory and I’ll know He lives. [Refrain]

*“Because He Lives” by Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither;  
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## BENEDICTION

### CHOIR: “THE ANGELS ROLLED THE STONE AWAY”

## POSTLUDE

\* Please stand if you are able

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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WEBSITE: [ABERDEENPRES.ORG](http://ABERDEENPRES.ORG)

### CALENDAR

- TODAY** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)  
Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- Tuesday, Apr 2** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)  
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)  
Handbell Rehearsal (5:00 pm in the Sanctuary)
- Wed, Apr 3** Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
- Sunday, Apr 7** Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)  
Sharing Table (before and after the service)
- LOOKING AHEAD** Sunday, April 14: Potluck after the service  
Saturday, April 20: Feast For All

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