

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Holy Presence,  
unseen, you draw near, unknown, you accompany us.  
You hear our questions.  
You know our grief and our hope.  
Walk with us, and open our eyes.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Prayer Génari Karganov

### BRINGING THE LIGHT

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Followers of Jesus, by his cross we are redeemed from the futility of sin.

**Alleluia!**

By his rising we are free from the fear of death.

**Alleluia!**

By his love we are made new in the living and enduring Word of God.

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

\*SONG OF PRAISE Christ Has Risen Hymnal, No. 231

#### \*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Eternally patient God, we ask again and again,  
"What should we do?"**

**And again and again, you tell us, "Repent and return to me."**

**Yet we have not changed our ways.**

**We fall into old habits, cling to our own ways, and take for granted the  
grace you have given us.**

**Once again, we ask you for forgiveness.**

**Show us the way forward and help us return, once again, to you.**

(Time of silent reflection)

... so that your faith and hope are set on God.

**We are born anew, through the living  
and enduring word of God.**

**Alleluia! Praise to the risen Christ!**

#### \*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*SONG OF RESPONSE Glory to God Hymnal, No. 582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

World with-out end, with-out end. Amen (x3)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Larry Upton

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:36-42

Page No. 886

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 116

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

**Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"**

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

**For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

**I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";**

I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar."

**What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,

**I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

**O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.**

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,**

in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

ANTHEM

In Christ Alone

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:13-35

Page No. 860

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Will You Recognize?

Tracy L. Evans

\*SONG OF FAITH

Sometimes a Light

Hymnal, No. 800

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Life in Christ is life eternal.**

**The resurrection of Jesus is the sign  
that God will consummate the work  
of creation and reconciliation beyond death  
and bring to fulfillment  
the new life begun in Christ.**

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response: ...God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

*Please pray the Lord's Prayer  
in the language and wording most familiar to you.*

THE OFFERING  
OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

God of All Living                      Hymnal, No. 713 vs 4  
God of all living, God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow, and the sun,  
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,  
Using us gently and making us one.

\*DEDICATION PRAYER

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*SENDING SONG

Lord, Make Us More Holy

Hymnal, No. 313

\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

\*POSTLUDE

Mignon, Op. 68, No. 35

Robert Schumann

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

**Lectionary Readings** for April 30 : Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for April **are coffee and sugar. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.**

**Hearing-assistance** devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

# Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231



1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,  
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;  
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.  
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.  
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



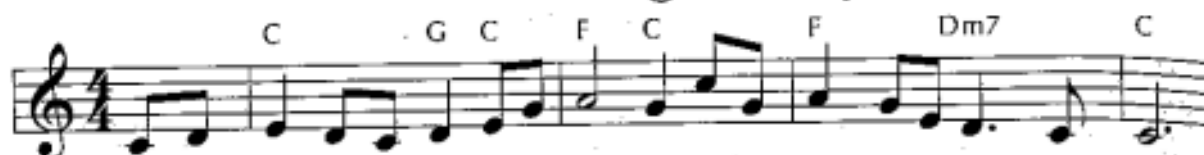
Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;  
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.  
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris-en, God is here!  
He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.  
ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.



# 800 Sometimes a Light Surprises



1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;  
 2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue  
 3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;  
 4 Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their longed - for fruit should bear,



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;  
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;  
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;  
 though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there,



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain  
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,  
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;  
 yet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;



a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.  
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."  
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.  
 for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

# 313 Lord, Make Us More Holy

1 Lord, make us more ho - ly; Lord, make us more ho - ly;  
 2 Lord, make us more lov - ing; Lord, make us more lov - ing;  
 3 Lord, make us more pa - tient; Lord, make us more pa - tient;  
 4 Lord, make us more faith - ful; Lord, make us more faith - ful;

Lord, make us more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain:  
 Lord, make us more lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain:  
 Lord, make us more pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain:  
 Lord, make us more faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain:

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.  
 lov - ing, lov - ing, lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain.  
 pa - tient, pa - tient, pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain.  
 faith - ful, faith - ful, faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain.