



seeking:
*Who are you
looking for?*



Mary Magdalene in the garden with Jesus, detail of mosaic in Resurrection Chapel, Washington National Cathedral

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Resurrection of the Lord

April 9, 2023

Seeking: Who are you looking for?

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*God of Love,
you have changed death into life.
You have changed our fear into courage.
You have changed despair into hope.
Change our hearts, that being raised with Christ
we may live brand new lives,
in the mystery and the power of your love. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Prelude on Easter Hymn John Vandertuin

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

What are you looking for?

The light before dawn.

What are you looking for?

A reason to hope.

What are you looking for?

Joy after grief and flowers after winter.

What are you looking for?

A place to belong.

What are you looking for?

We are looking for the Messiah.

Good news! Come in. Love is alive!

Surely God is in this place.

Let us worship God!

*SONG OF PRAISE Jesus Christ is Risen Today Hymnal, No. 232

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

So let us pray together, knowing that our seeking has its limits, but God's love does not. Let us pray:

God of resurrection,

We confess, like a dog with a bone, we run aimlessly.

**We chase our tails, looking for things that provide answers
to the suffering of the world, looking for comfort to our longest**

**nights. You meet us in the darkness before dawn, but we mistake you for
the gardener. Forgive us for seeking after worldly things.**

Forgive us for forgetting to seek you.

**Speak to us. Call us by name, that we might recognize you in our
midst. With hope and gratitude we pray, amen.**

(Time of silent reflection)

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel, the good news proclaimed in resurrection:

**What once was lost is found. We are held in God's loving embrace: for
given, claimed, and sent to serve. Alleluia! Amen.**

*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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Tim Thiessen

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:34-43

Page No. 895

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 27:11-54

Page No. 810

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Canticle for Easter Day

MESSAGE Who Are You Looking For? Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH In the Bulb there is a Flower Hymnal, No. 250

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in resurrection—

**mysterious, beyond our understanding, and yet,
like tulips after the snow: real.**

We believe in Easter morning—

**in the promise of a God who would roll back every stone to return
to us.**

We believe in Jesus—

**who calls us by name and asks,
“Who are you looking for?”**

So we look—

for justice, for mercy, for God in our midst.

And as we look, we sing, “Alleluia!”

Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

Christ is Alive!

Hymnal, No. 246

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Toccata on All Creatures of Our God and King

Diane Bish

*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 16 : Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

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.

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D) F (Em) Gm

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7) (D)
 C7 F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7) (G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (F#) (Bm)
 F7 Bb Gm F Dm Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)
 Bb Gm F Dm Gm C7 F

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.