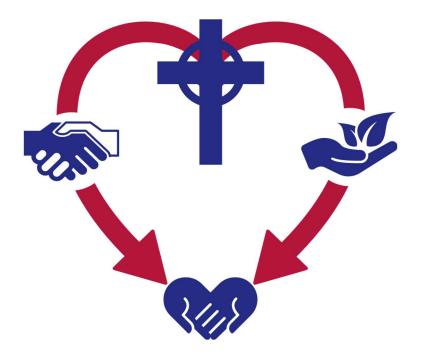
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ: by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Second Sunday of Easter April 7, 2024

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well.



We Gather to Worship God

*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

All: Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

Leader: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

All: Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts, confessing him with our mouths, worshiping him in spirit and in truth.

Leader: Let us worship the risen Lord.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #238

"Thine Is the Glory"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Almighty God, You have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we so often doubt his presence with us. We confess that we doubt His faithfulness to us. We confess that we have not bowed before him and acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people. Lord bring new life where we are worn and tired. Bring us a new love where we have turned from you. We ask these things in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession Leader: And all the people of Christ say, People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: In Christ, we are all forgiven by the grace of God so go live like it. In the Spirit, we are never alone, we are part of a community of faith; go build that. By the grace of God, every human being is seen, loved, and made whole; in assurance and forgiveness, let us rejoice in tis. Thanks be to God. Hear and believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you. (remain standing)

*Transition Hymn #59

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources (see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

| Special Music | "Let the Redeemed of the Lord" | Chancel Choir |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | Michael Barrett | |

Scripture Reading

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Proclamation of God's Word

"Here's Your Sign"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Landon Hammett

Responding to God's Word

*Affirmation of Our Faith (Apostle's Creed – Unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

*Responsive Hymn #817

"We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight"

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Prayers for the People and 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.

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #257

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #246 (v.1)

*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u>: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary today by Ann Bagwell; "A special date to remember: 4/7/1963. In loving memory of Jack Bagwell and our 60 years together."

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. Preston Shealy, Bridge Interim Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Millie Shiflett, Accompanist Dana Tate, Lay Leader



"The Risen Christ"

Shelby Wood

"Christ Is Alive!"