

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Resurrection of the Lord Sunday  
April 12, 2020**



**Pre-recorded service for Home Worship Due to COVID-19**

**GATHERING**

Christ is risen!  
He is risen, indeed!

Welcome

Introit:

Blessings

Laura Story

**God Gathers Us In – selected verses from Psalm 118**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

***His steadfast love endures forever!***

The Lord is my strength and my might;

***He has become my salvation.***

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

***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.***

Come, let us worship the Lord.

\* Hymn

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer for Forgiveness (unison)

***Lord of Life, we confess that we are fearful of resurrection living.***

***Resurrection living requires us to***

***talk about God's kingdom, the way you did;***

***walk with those who don't understand, the way you did;***

***share with those who never can repay us, the way you did;***

*and forgive those who hurt us, the way you did.  
Forgive us, Lord. Help us enter the joy of resurrection living –  
displaying the kingdom of heaven on earth, the way you did.  
In the name of Jesus we pray, AMEN.*

**\* Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

**\* Congregational Response – Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**\* Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

Musical Meditation:

**Forever**

**PROCLAIMING OF THE WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination (unison)**

*Spirit of the Living God, fill us with your breath so that we can fully know your Truth, the Living Word.  
Amen.*

**First Scripture Reading**

**I Corinthians 3:1-4**

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Chat with Theo**

**Second Scripture Reading**

**Matthew 28:1-10**

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon**

Suddenly: An "After the Sabbath" Easter Message  
*The Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber*

**RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE**

**\* Hymn**

*This Easter Celebration by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (2020)*

AURELIA

**Offering of the People**

**Invitation for the Offering**

The PC(USA) celebrates today One Great Hour of Sharing. This collection supports missions such as Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

We thank God for giving us opportunity to share resources and offer hope in Christ's name to those recovering from natural disasters, those creating self-sustaining businesses, and those surviving with the daily pain of hunger.

**\* Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**SEALING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Eucharist**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise...***

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

Great is the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...***

*[Prayers of the People / Intercession for church and the world.]*

*When the liturgist says, "Lord, in your mercy," the people respond, "Hear our prayer."*

**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...***

**Words of Institution and Communion**

**Prayer (unison)**

***Glorious Lord of life,***

***By the mighty resurrection of your Son***

***You overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him.***

***Grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead***

***may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;***

***through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,***

***one God, now and forever.***

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\* Hymn**

*Christ is Alive*

TRURO

**\* Charge and Benediction**

As a community of faith, one of our most treasured sacraments is that of Holy Communion. In preparation of our celebration of Easter during this pandemic, the Office of the General Assembly issued an advisory on serving virtual Holy Communion. The Session at St. James has approved the serving of Holy Communion during our virtual service on Easter Sunday. Although we know we all wish we could all be together in the Sanctuary Easter Morning, we can join in this sacrament at home while watching the service online giving us all a sense of community, the comfort of God's love and of Jesus' sacrifice for our sins. You may use whatever you have on hand to participate such as wine, juice or water and bread or crackers. I am including some of the information we received from General Assembly for you to read to prepare for our service Easter Sunday

**\*Embodiment:** Christianity is an embodied faith. The first Christians worshiped at the temple and in synagogues, homes, cata-combs, and prisons. The important thing was not the place, but the gathering of Christ's body-the people of God-and the presence of Christ among them in Word and Sacrament.

**\*Community:** The Sacraments are the Word of God enacted and sealed in the life of the Church, the body of Christ. They are gracious acts of God, by which Christ Jesus offers his life to us in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are also human acts of gratitude, by which we offer our lives to God in love and service. The Sacraments are both physical signs and spiritual gifts, including words and actions, surrounded by prayer, in the context of the Church's common worship. They employ ordinary things-the basic elements of water, bread, and wine-in proclaiming the extraordinary love of God.

**\*Meaning:** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper offers an abundant feast of theological meaning, including: thanksgiving to God the Father; remembrance of Jesus Christ; invocation of the Holy Spirit; communion in the body of Christ; and a meal of the realm of God. The Reformed tradition understands the Lord's Supper to be a sign of God's covenant. The bread of the Lord's Supper is linked with the bread of Passover and the gift of manna in the wilderness. The Lord's Supper thus connects us with God's saving power and providential care from generation to generation. Like the offering of sacrifices, a sign of Israel's thanksgiving for God's faithfulness, the Lord's Supper is a sacrifice of praise and a sign of our gratitude for God's steadfast love. The Lord's Supper represents God's gracious invitation to an everlasting covenant. The Lord's Supper also reflects our calling to feed others as we have been fed, and offers a foretaste of that heavenly banquet when God will wipe away every tear and swallow up death forever.

The Lord's Supper enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's sustaining grace offered to all people.

The Lord's Supper is at once God's gift of grace, God's means of grace, and God's call to respond to that grace. Through the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ nourishes us in righteousness, faithfulness, and discipleship. Through the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit renews the Church in its identity and sends the Church to mission in the world.

When we gather at the Lord's Supper the Spirit draws us into Christ's presence and unites with the Church in every time and place. We join with all the faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God. We reaffirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God, one another, and our neighbors in the world."

I encourage everyone to watch the service at 10:15 am Easter Sunday so we truly can worship together at that time.

Happy Easter for Christ has risen and may the Peace of Christ be with each and everyone one of you and your families. God be with us until we meet again.

Sincerely,

Karen Howenstine  
Elder, St James Presbyterian Church.