



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



6624 Public Sq., Independence, OH; (216) 524-6307; office@ipcusa.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER EARTH SUNDAY

April 25, 2021



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Secretary

Paula Trill, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

“God’s work in creation is too wonderful, too ancient, too beautiful, too good to be desecrated...Restoring creation is God’s own work in our time, in which God comes both to judge and to restore.”

~ PC(USA) Environmental Policy

~ *GATHERING* ~

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The plants and the trees show God's presence;
Let us join with creation in praising God.

PRELUDE

PRELUDE IN C MINOR

J.S. BACH

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Based on Psalm 96*)

Come righteous judge, and let your glory shine forever.

The heavens are sparkling with delight, while the earth rocks for joy.

Critters and creatures of every kind cry, "Hallelujah!"

while green grasslands flow with praise.

The trees are singing. The seas are shouting.

Birds and bugs jump. While fish fly through the air.

Come, Holy God. Come, let us praise you.

HYMN

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

GTG #353

by Edward Mote

SOLID ROCK

CHILDREN'S TIME WHEN GOD MADE THE WORLD

by Matthew Paul Turner; illustrated by Gillian Gamble

Children may be dismissed to Sunday School.

POURING OF THE WATERS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life, you created us in your image to care for one another and for all creation. Forgive us for turning away from you, ignoring the needs of our neighbors and the cries of the earth. As the sun brings light and warmth to this earth, make us signs of your grace, through Christ, our light and life, we pray. Amen. [Silent Confession]

RESPONSE

BE NOT AFRAID

GTG #243

Taizé Community and Jacques Berthier

BE NOT AFRAID

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

ALLELUIA

HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH!
Caribbean melody; arr. by John L. Bell

GTG #591
HALLE HALLE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

<https://vimeo.com/434075506>

~ THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ACTS 14:14-18

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

HE IS KING OF KINGS
African American Spiritual

GTG #273
HE IS KING

SECOND READING

JOHN 15:1-8

(NRSV)

SERMON

CREATURELY RESURRECTION

Rev. Wigger

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*adapted from the Confession of 1967*)

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

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes the natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation.

~ *RESPONDING TO THE WORD* ~

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

Words by Thomas Ken

OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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* -

HYMN

THE EARTH BELONGS TO GOD ALONE

GTG #715

Words by Adam M. L. Tice; Music by William P. Rowan **SIMMONS**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FUGUE IN C MINOR

BY J.S. BACH



Coffee and tea are available in the gathering room. You are invited to grab a cup and head to the courtyard for (socially-distanced) fellowship.

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: the *Book of Common Worship*, PC(USA); *Presbyterian Outlook*, Roger Gench; *Together We Pray*, J. Bradley Wigger; *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion*, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed. (NRSV) = New Revised Standard Version; GTG = "Glory to God" Hymnal