



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence
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*Oh God, I stretch out my hands to you in this early Easter darkness.
I need you to pull me up and set me on my feet again, for I am weak and tired.
~ Kate Bowler*

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD EASTER SUNDAY

~ GATHERING ~

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

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

Nancy Bair, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

God, on that first Easter morning while it was still dark, one woman went alone to the tomb to do what could be done to honor you, though hope had drained away.

~ Kate Bowler

IN THIS EARLY EASTER DARKNESS

...and set me on my feet again, for I am weak and tired.

God, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Spirit, have mercy.

MARY AT THE TOMB

JOHN 20:1-10

(NRSV)

PRELUDE

HOW FAIR AND HOW PLEASANT ART THOU

Op. 18. No. 5

by Marcel Dupré

EASTER WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! **Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!**

*LITANY FOR EASTER

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

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!

He appeared to the women, and to the disciples,
and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe
and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! **Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!**



hallelujah

***HYMN**

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY
by Charles Wesley

GTG #232
EASTER HYMN

CHILDREN OF GOD

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM



***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We journeyed through the season of Lent, we feasted together at the Passover table, and we grieved together at the foot of the cross. We thank you, God, as we gather in joy this Easter morning!

Help us choose the path that leads to resurrection.

We, like Mary, often fail to see when the Risen Christ stands before us. We ask, God, that you open our eyes to your presence in our midst.

Help us choose the path that leads to resurrection.

Like the disciples running to the tomb, we often fail to believe what you have revealed to us. Give us wisdom to understand the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ.

Help us choose the path that leads to resurrection.

We rejoice this Easter morning, celebrating Jesus' triumph over the grave. We rejoice in the stone that has been rolled away, granting us everlasting life in Christ.

Help us choose the path that leads to resurrection. Amen.

***RESPONSE**

BE NOT AFRAID

GTG #243

Taizé Community and Jacques Berthier

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jesus Christ we are restored.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



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 (Refrain)

GTG #591

~ THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved. **Thanks be to God.**



*Two bright angels met her there, and then—how is it possible?—
you were there, fully alive, beyond belief.*

~ Kate Bowler

GOSPEL READING

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

JOHN 20:11-18

This is the good news we have received, in which we stand,
and by which we are saved. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

WERE YOU THERE

GTG #228

African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen

Verse 6

SERMON

THE WAY OF RESURRECTION

~ **RESPONDING TO THE WORD** ~

***HYMN**

ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS
by William Chatterton Dix

GTG #260
HYFRYDOL

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY
OLD HUNDREDTH

GTG #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are we who stretch out our hands to you in doubt and grief, in sickness of body and mind and spirit, our prayers not fully realized, rejoicing anyway. ~ Kate Bowler

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.

HYMN

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen

GTG #525

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

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.



SANCTUS

...Therefore, we praise you, joining the song of all creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



Proverbs 16:3

**commit your work
to the LORD and your
plans will be established**

~ SENDING ~

For that is what makes us Easter people: carrying forth the realized hope of the Resurrected One, singing our alleluias great and small, while it is still dark.

~ Kate Bowler

HYMN

CHRIST IS RISEN! SHOUT HOSANNA!

GTG #248

by Brian Wren

HYMN TO JOY

BENEDICTION

Christ is risen. Christ will come again. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

GLORIA

15 ANTIPHONS

by Marcel Dupré

ALLELUIA!

CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

Easter Plant Dedication

The Easter plants that grace our chancel or which are being delivered to shut-in members, have been graciously donated by the following members and friends of the Independence Presbyterian Church family.

John and Nancy Bair Glory to the risen Christ!
In memory of our parents and grandparents

Barbara Csuti In memory of my beloved husband, John Csuti.

Gail Gronwall

Bob Highman In memory of Nancy Highman

Nancy Jermann Happy Easter!

Nina Kazarovich

Dr. Michael and
Brenda Kolchin In memory of Margaret Fraley



Wendy and
Dave Lavey For our children and our parents.

Don and Sue Lenny To Don and Betty Lenny.

Frank Lovell In loving memory of my parents, Frank and Marie
Lovell and my brother, Thomas Lovell.

Larry Mamere To Susan and loved ones.

Mike and
Debbie Messenger In memory of our parents and friends.

Sherry Rasmusen In memory of Dianne Rasnick-Brown

Karen Shallcross
and Family

He is risen indeed!

Bill and Connie Smith

In memory of our loved ones

Somple Family

In celebration of Easter!

Carol Tomasko

The Trill Family

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Wadsworth-Wigger
Family

For the congregation of IPC and all of the love
they have shown our family,



Donations to Shut-Ins:

John and Nancy Bair, Dr. Michael and Brenda Kolchin, Wendy and Dave Lavey, Frank Lovell, Larry Mamere, Mike and Debbie Messenger, Sherry Rasmusen, Karen Shallcross and Family, Bill and Connie Smith, Somple Family, Carol Tomasko, and the Trill Family.



Your plants can be taken home after the service.

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Connections*, David Gambrell, ed.; *Call to Worship, Lectionary Aids*; *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri Ott.

Cover Image: Illustrated Ministry

(NRSV) = New Revised Standard Version; GTG = "Glory to God" Hymnal