



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
 The Community Church



Sunday Morning Worship at Eleven O'Clock
Second Sunday of Easter – April 16, 2023

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

The bonds of death could not hold Jesus.

**We hid in fear,
 but now we are dancing in the streets.**

Jesus is not in the tomb. Jesus is here with us.

**We were silent in fear,
 but now we are announcing, "Christ is risen!"**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of life, from whom all receive their breath,
 breathe new life into our tired lungs,
 so we may speak words of faith, hope, and love.
 Free us from fear, that we may follow Christ boldly,
 ready to lay down our lives for your kingdom's cause,
 and trusting that you will also rescue us from the grave
 by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN #244**

"This Joyful Eastertide"

1 This joyful Eastertide
 away with sin and sorrow!
 My love, the Crucified,
 has sprung to life this morrow.

2 My flesh in hope shall rest
 and for a season slumber
 till trump from east to west
 shall wake the dead in number.
 (Refrain)

Refrain:

Had Christ, who once was slain,
 not burst his three-day prison,
 our faith had been in vain:
 but now hath Christ arisen,
 arisen, arisen; but now has Christ arisen!

3 Death's flood has lost its chill
 since Jesus crossed the river.
 Lover of souls, from ill
 my passing soul deliver.
 (Refrain)

** We invite you to rise in body or
 in spirit where there are asterisks **

*We invite you to read all **bold**
 words aloud with the community*

*We start services with a "Call to
 Worship" to establish the context
 for worship as an encounter with
 the Holy One who calls all things
 into being.*

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God is our rock and our fortress,
who protects us from danger and saves us from death.

In confidence and faith in God's mercy,
let us confess our misdeeds that we may receive grace:

**Gracious God, you give us new life,
but we choose the ways of death.
You breathe peace upon us, yet we pursue conflict.
You seek us out when we are afraid, yet we cling to our fears.**

**Forgive us for turning away from you.
Shine your light upon us and banish all shadows,
that we may live faithfully and joyfully for you.**

We turn from communal praise to corporate confession, not for shame nor in guilt, but to wrestle honestly with the impact we have on each other. We do so with the knowledge of God's grace for all people.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the resurrection of Jesus the Christ, God has given us a new birth into a living hope.
Rejoice in the good news: In the name of Jesus the Christ, we are forgiven.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As Christ has forgiven us, let us forgive one another:
The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*RESPONSE #582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines"

1 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.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. (3x)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, you are the way, the truth, and the life.
By the powers of your Holy Spirit speak your word to us,
that we might know you more deeply and love you more
faithfully; through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

We read Scripture when we gather because we dare to believe that God continues to speak to us through it.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

NRSVue

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,

"Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
 for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
 moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
 or let your Holy One experience corruption.
 You have made known to me the ways of life;
 you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
 nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are

Coming to us from the worship of ancient Judaism, the psalms have been at the heart of Christian prayer and praise across the centuries. Throughout its history, the Reformed tradition has given a special place to singing the psalms in worship. The Psalm is not intended as a reading but a response to the first reading.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

ANTHEM

Psalm 16: When in the Night I Meditate

Hymn #810

1 When in the night I meditate
 on mercies multiplied,
 my grateful heart inspires my tongue
 to bless the Lord, my guide.

4 I know that I shall not be left
 forgotten in the grave,
 and from corruption, you, O Lord,
 your holy one will save.

2 Forever in my thought, the Lord
 before my face shall stand;
 secure, unmoved I shall remain,
 with God at my right hand.

5 The path of life you show to me;
 of joy a boundless store
 is ever found at your right hand,
 and pleasures evermore.

3 My inmost being thrills with joy
 and gladness fills my breast;
 because on God my trust is stayed,
 my flesh in hope shall rest.

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31

NRSVue

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I

see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

MESSAGE

Rev. Jason Dauer

*HYMN #817

"We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight"

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found.

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

4 And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Confession of 1967 (9.08)

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all.

**Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.**

He expressed the love of God in word and deed

and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people.

But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people.

His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes.

Many rejected him and demanded his death.

In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment

under which all people stand convicted.

God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.

The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all people.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: In your almighty mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING

OFFERING: A LITANY FROM THE WORDS OF CESAR CHAVEZ

When we are really honest with ourselves, we must admit that our lives are all that really belong to us. So, it is how we use our lives that determines what kind of people we are. It is my deepest belief that only by giving do we find life.

**For whosoever would save his or her life will lose it,
and whoever loses his or her life for my sake will find it.**

But God did not promise us that the world would be humane and just. God gave us the gift of life and allows us to choose the way we will use our limited time on earth.

Therefore, choose life that you and your descendants may live.

Our struggle is not easy. Those who oppose us are rich and powerful and they have many allies in high places. We are poor. Our allies are few. But we have something the rich do not own. We have our bodies and our spirits and the just of our cause.

**For the foolishness of God is wiser than humankind,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human kind.**

We can choose to use our lives for others to bring about a better and a more just world for our children. People who make that choice will know hardship and sacrifice. But if you give yourself totally to the non-violent struggle for peace and justice, you also find that people will give you their hearts and you will never go hungry and you will never be alone. In giving yourself, you will discover a whole new life full of meaning and love.

But they who wait for the lord shall renew their strength.

They shall mount up with the wings like eagles.

They shall run and not be weary: they shall walk and not faint.

What do we want the churches to do? We don't ask for more cathedrals. We don't ask for bigger churches or fine gifts. We ask for its presence with us, as God among us. We ask the churches to sacrifice with the people for social justice, and for love of brother and sister. We don't ask for words. We ask for deeds... a multitude of simple deeds for justice, carried out by men and women whose hearts are focused on the suffering of the poor and who yearn, with us, for a better world. Together, all things are possible!

Ask and it will be given to you: Seek and you will find:

Knock and it will be opened to you. Amen.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER from the National Farm Workers' Ministry

For the gift of life and a place at the banquet of life,

Let us be thankful!

For our land and abundant resources,

Let us be thankful!

For the bread on our tables and the bread at Christ's table which sustains our life,

Let us be thankful!

For our families and the security their love gives us,

Let us be thankful!

For the blessings of a bountiful harvest and economic security,

Let us be thankful!

Those wishing to make offerings by electronic transfer may use this QR code or go to fpcedgewood.org/donate



For the prophets and peacemakers everywhere in the world,

Let us be thankful!

Let us pray, with the confidence of the children of God in the languages closest to our hearts, the prayer Jesus taught, saying:

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 INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN #257**

"The Risen Christ"

- 1 The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
- 2 The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe;
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.
- 3 The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand
the bread for those who fail to understand,
reveals himself, despite their lingering tears,
enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.
- 4 May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.

BLESSING & CHARGE

POSTLUDE

Please be seated as we partake in a time of contemplation.

When the music ends, we invite you to join us in the Gathering Place for coffee hour!

SERVICE IN THE WORLD

*Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service;
we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.*

In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.

Participants in this worship service:

Rev. Jason Dauer, pastor | **Sophia and Lilly McGuigan**, liturgists
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist | **The Sanctuary Choir**
John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our **YouTube channel**,
or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



Welcome

Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. Please place this card in the offering plate either during or after the service.

BOOK CLUB continues to meet each Tuesday at 10:00AM at the Apossos home, three blocks from the church, 361 Maple Avenue. They are reading *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Fr. Richard Rohr. Drop by for conversation and coffee.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY is led by Elder Tim Hoffman discussing what the Bible says about itself, Jesus, devil, angels, heaven, prophecy, and more! Zoom link is available on the website and in the weekly email updates. No password is needed, just the link. Tim will let you in from the waiting room as you join. Come and join the discussion on Wednesday nights at 7:30PM online! Questions? Shoot an email to Tim Hoffman at HoffmanTL@gmail.com.

PER CAPITA REMINDER - Our 2023 per capita donation is \$35.70. This is the amount of support, per member, that our Congregation remits to the Presbytery. This allows us to support the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. Thank you!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR. Jason is at Biddle's Escape every Wednesday, 8 AM – 12 PM. Drop by to catch up, share ideas, ask questions, or talk about the latest movie!

WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY has several opportunities to volunteer for various projects in the area, including their weekly mobile pantry distribution. Visit <https://app.involvemint.io/projects> to find out more information or scan the QR code to the right.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, CE=CE Office,
GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary,
Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Today, Sunday, April 16

12:00PM Fellowship (GP)
12:15PM Deacon Meeting (L)

Monday, April 17

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, April 18

10:00AM Book Club (AH)
7:00PM Edgewood Symphony (S)

Wednesday, April 19

7:30PM Zoom Bible Study

Thursday, April 20

3:45PM Flute Lesson (S)
7:00PM SAA (L)
7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

Friday, April 21

4:15PM Flute Lesson (CE)
8:30PM AA (SR)

Saturday, April 22

8:30PM AA (SR)

Next Sunday, April 23

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)
11:00AM Worship (S), Youth Sunday School (GP)
12:00PM Fellowship (GP)
Planning Meeting (L)

How can you become involved?

As we reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

OUR FPCE FAMILY

Pastor..... The Rev. Jason Dauer
pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

Office & Cleaning Manager
..... **Judy Mysels**
office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager **Rob Mysels**
building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music **Shaun Cloonan**
music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist..... Sunny Sakai
Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers.....The Entire Congregation



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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