

POTWIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Topeka, Kansas

Sunday March 31st, 2024

Easter Sunday

Liturgical color: white

PRELUDE

Leader: Hallelujah! He is Risen!

Unison: He is Risen indeed!

INTROIT: “Thine is the Glory”

Potwin Bells

Gathering

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Let there be songs of victory to you, O God. Let the whole assembly sing of your salvation!

Unison: You are our strength and salvation! O Lord, we have cried out to you, and you have answered!

Leader: You are our God, and we will give thanks to you. You are our God who has given us life!

Unison: Give thanks to God for the Lord is good! God’s steadfast love endures forever!

***INVOCATION/OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

Brightness of God’s Glory and image of God’s person, you are the one whom death could not conquer, nor the tomb imprison. You have shared our frailty in human flesh. Help us to share your immortality in the Spirit. Let no grave terrify us and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and in all our days as the first and the last, the Living One, Our Savior and Lord, now and forever, Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: “Christ the Lord Has Risen Today”** (#113 Blue Hymnal)

Praise, Prayers, and Petitions

SILENT PRAYERS OF PERSONAL CONFESSION:

CORPORATE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION:

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave you shattered the power of death and sin. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn. We are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace. We are also guilty of abusing

the earth you have made. Forgive us, God of Mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make all things new. Grant that we may know the joy of abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. In his name we aske it. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: As God has forgiven us so let us forgive one another. The Peace of Christ be with you!

Unison: And also with you!

Leader: Please share the love and peace of Christ with each other as you feel comfortable.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Easter Triumph”

Potwin Bells

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

(pg 16 in the Hymnal, Traditional version)

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.

***Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)**

#577 (Blue Hymnal)

The Word:

PASTORAL PRAYER

Illumination (Sung x2)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my heart

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

NEW TESTAMENT READING: John 20:1-18

MESSAGE: “Witness to the Resurrection”

Pastor Sue Ann Seel

MEDITATION ON MESSAGE:

Gwen Jones

Response to the Word

STATEMENT OF FAITH:

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God, Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching

by word and by deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks, and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying "Come Lord Jesus!"

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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

-From the Brief Statement of Faith by the Presbyterian Church, USA 1983

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY:

Southwind Strings

DOXOLOGY:

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" #592

***OFFERING RESPONSE: "Blessed be God forever."**

***CLOSING HYMN: "The Day of Resurrection"**

(#118 Blue Hymnal)

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

***CLOSING MUSIC: "The Hallelujah Chorus"**