

Easter Sunday Order of Service - April 21, 2019

Organ Prelude	Matt Podd
The Easter Story Petal St. Rose, Myah Bass, Julien Polycarpe, Cassie Slowick, Madeleine Jazweicki, Gracie Loscalzo “Hurry up we have so much to talk about...”	
Δ Opening Hymn Hallelujah Chorus G.F. Handel Joyful, Joyful (<i>Presbyterian Hymnal # 464</i>)	The Choir and Youth Choir
<i>Please rise as you are able in body or spirit</i> Δ Call to Worship (<i>responsive</i>) It starts like this: forks of light, slicking up, out of the east, flying over you, and what’s left of night– its black waterfalls, its craven doubt – dissolves like gravel as the sun appears trailing clouds of pink and green wool, igniting the fields, turning the ponds to plates of fire. The creatures there are dark flickerings you make out one by one as the light lifts – great blue herons, wood ducks shaking their shimmering crests – and knee-deep in the purple shallows a deer drinking: as she turns the silver water crushes like silk, shaking the sky, and you’re healed then from the night, your heart wants more, you’re ready to rise and look! to hurry anywhere! to believe in everything. <i>Morning at Great Pond by Mary Oliver</i>	Elder Jim Johnson

<p>Δ Prayer of Confession</p> <p>If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us. But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will meet us where we are and renew us. Let us confess first in the silence.</p> <p>SILENCE</p> <p>Let us pray: Early in the morning we come to you, Lord, with gratefulness and wonder, with awe at your power to save us. This morning we want to follow the women to the tomb. We want to hear the surprising words, “He is not here!” We want to kneel before Christ with joy and thankfulness. And we want to leave here bursting with good tidings of great joy which shall be for all people. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Amen</p>	<p>Alice Wilder</p>
<p>Δ Words of Assurance</p> <p>Believe this good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.</p> <p>How then are we called to live?</p>	<p>The Rev. Adriene Thorne</p>
<p>Δ Sung Response</p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end, Amen. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, Amen.</i></p>	
<p>Welcome</p>	<p>The Rev. Adriene Thorne</p>
<p>Δ Sharing Christ’s Peace</p> <p>I invite you to exchange signs of peace with one another using the traditional words that have been spoken by Easter Christians throughout the centuries: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!</p> <p><i>People may greet one another with signs and words of peace.</i></p>	<p>Rev. Thorne</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">The Hebrew Bible Reading Psalm 118:19-24 <i>[Page 554 In the Red Bible and Page 565 in Blue Bible]</i></p> <p>19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.</p> <p>20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.</p> <p>21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.</p> <p>22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.</p> <p>23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.</p> <p>24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>The Word of the Lord, Thanks be to God</p>	<p>Vicky Negron</p>
<p>The Gospel Matthew 28:1-10</p> <p>1 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.</p> <p>The Gospel of the Lord, Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ</p>	<p>The Rev. Dr. April Stace</p>
<p>Anthem <i>On Calvary</i></p>	<p>Richard Arriaga, soloist with FPC Choir</p>
<p>Sermon "To Make You Feel My Love"</p>	<p>Rev. Thorne</p>

The Offering

Invitation:

(PLEASE do not say: May the ushers come forward.)

The risen Jesus gives his heartbroken disciples the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. God is always finding ways to give to us, and our offering this morning is one way that we return a portion of what we've received so that a world broken and in need will hear the Good News of God's love.

Here at First Church, our giving is as diverse as our community. Some of us give online or through automatic gifts from our bank account directly to the church. If that's you, you will want to find the "I Give Online" card in the pew rack and drop that in the offering plate when it comes around. Many of us write a check or make our gift in cash using an envelope. If that is you, please use your personal numbered envelopes or an envelope available for you in the pew rack. A small number of us give using our phone. If that sounds like you, pull out your phone and go to FPC.CHURCH and follow the prompts for giving. However, you give to support God's work in the world, know that God works through each one of us to make the world feel God's love.

Offertory

Marvelous

Stephanie Courtney, soloist with FPC Choir

Δ Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Δ Prayer of Dedication

God of great gifts: This morning we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks! With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of love! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! Amen.

Elders David Jones and Odette Perriel

Elder Jones and Elder Perriel

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (*insert*)

Come, let us worship God (**come, let us worship God**)
Come, let us worship God (**come, let us worship God**)
Welcome everyone (**welcome everyone**)
To the love of God (**to the love of God**)

Rest for the weary...
Food for the hungry...
Hope for the children...

***Minister:** This is a responsive Communion liturgy, and you are invited to join me in telling the story of a very special meal at an ordinary table. This is our liturgy, the work of the people, a community story – one that we tell together.*

Invitation

One: Why have we gathered here?
All: We come because we have been called to live out a story.
One: What story shall we live?
All: The story of saving love.
One: Where did this story begin?
All: It was whispered before time began, it was sung in the melody of Creation.

Great Thanksgiving

One: Whose story is this?
All: This story is God's alone to tell.
It hums in the water of the Hudson River and in the trees of a borough called Brooklyn.
It whispers in the skies.
It calls to the people of all places.
One: Why then should we speak of this story?
All: This story calls our name in Creation.
This story claims our lives through the Cross.
This story shapes our future through the Spirit.
We are the story in this time and in this place.
One: Hear the storytellers of all ages whisper with us.
All: Holy, holy, holy,
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.

Rev. Thorne

Recollection

One: So tell me the story of this night and of this table.

All: **The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed,
took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it.**

(Taking and breaking bread.)

One: Tell me what he said and did.

All: **This is my body which is broken for you.**

Do this and remember me.

One: Tell me what he said and did.

(Taking and pouring cup.)

All: **In the same way, he took the cup and said,**

This is a new covenant in my blood.

Drink it and remember me.

One: This is our common story, our deep memory,
our true inheritance;

so let it also be our storytelling, our testimony.

Let's celebrate the way that grace has shaped our lives.

Let us pray, in whatever language is the language of our
heart, the prayer that Jesus gave us:

Our Father...

Therefore, in remembrance of the mighty acts and blessed promises
of Jesus, we offer ourselves to you, Loving God, in union with his
offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

One: What is our prayer on this day?

All: **Show us with your Spirit, here and now,**

so this common meal becomes a life-giving celebration.

**May our eating and drinking this day bind us to Christ,
whose body and blood are given for us.**

**May we know that you live in us and that we live in you,
so that we live in your world, knowing it is indeed yours.**

One: Living God, this is our prayer.

All: **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

This bread...
this wine...
the body and blood of Christ
are for you, the people of Christ.
Let us eat and drink together to the new creation.

Post-Communion Prayer

We praise you, Loving God, for the reminders of your creative
word in what we taste, see, smell, and touch.
As we have taken this bread and wine,
we accept the promise that your coming realm is
being revealed and we offer our lives to be a place
where its love is made real. Amen.

*Adapted from the liturgy of Rev Brendan McCrae of Flagstaff Presbyterian Church,
Dunedin, New Zealand*

Announcements

Δ Closing Hymn 511 (*African American Hymnal*)

He's Done So Much for Me

Δ Benediction

Δ Postlude

More Abundantly

Rev. Thorne

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