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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN

*Founded in 1822*

*An intentionally inclusive community of faith*

Join us for worship at FPC.CHURCH or on the church Facebook page

## Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020 at 11 a.m.

### Morning Worship

#### Prelude

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit*

Elder Mario Adorno

#### Δ Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Yesterday we had lost so much

**we lost the light**

we lost the argument

**we lost love**

we lost life

**we lost God**

**we lost Jesus**

But this morning we found

the tomb - empty

**the morning - bright**

the stone - rolled

**the women - proclaiming**

the resurrection - waiting

**and Jesus - risen**

It is good we have found our way here

this is Easter Day

**love is back**

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

*Our opening Hymn is: Jesus Christ is Risen Today #123 in the Presbyterian Hymnal*

**Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, ALLELUIA!  
Our triumphant holy day, ALLELUIA!  
Who did once upon the cross, ALLELUIA!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. ALLELUIA!
  
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing. ALLELUIA!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, ALLELUIA!  
Who endured the cross and grave, ALLELUIA!  
Sinners to redeem and save. ALLELUIA!
  
- 3 But the pains which He endured, ALLELUIA!  
Our salvation have procured; ALLELUIA!  
Now above the sky He's King, ALLELUIA!  
Where the angels ever sing. ALLELUIA!
  
- 4 Sing we to our God above, ALLELUIA!  
Praise eternal as God's love; ALLELUIA!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, ALLELUIA!  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. ALLELUIA!

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7 with alleluias

Stanzas 1-3, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708  
Stanza 4, Charles Wesley, 1740*Lyra Davidica*, 1708  
Adapted from *The Compleat Psalmist*, 1749  
Desc. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1955

*Descant*

1. Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3. But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise e - ter - nal as God's love; Al - le - lu - ia!

Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now a - bove the sky He's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Descant © 1955, Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd. Used by permission.

EASTER

Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## Δ Prayer of Confession

The Rev. Dr. April Stace

God of life, this Lenten journey has been filled with the unexpected. You have asked us to look deep within ourselves, to identify the many ways in which we have turned away from you and so we offer these prayers to you first in silence.

### SILENCE

Let us pray:

We confess, gracious God, that the cross of Good Friday remains a shadow looming in our life even as we turn our faces towards the sun of Easter morning. You have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. You have celebrated our successes and our growing understanding of your love; and you have mourned our failures and rejections of your healing mercies. This day, as we have gathered to celebrate the joy of Easter, let us remember that we are to become “Easter People,” people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been made real. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need in order to serve in this world. Bring us through this time with confidence and trust in your guiding love. For we ask these things in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

AMEN.

*adapted from Nancy C. Townley*

## Δ Words of Assurance

Dr. Stace

Don't be afraid. Through all our stumbling and bumbling, God has lifted us and carried us. Believe the good news. In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

How then are we called to live?

The Lord Jesus Christ said you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength. This is the first and greatest commandment and a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the laws and the prophets.

## Gloria Patri

### **Glory to God**

*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!*

*World without end, without end, amen.  
World without end, without end, amen.  
World without end, without end, amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen!*

Special Music

Holy

David Murray, soloist

## Welcome

The Rev. Adriene Thorne

We made it! Church we made it to the other side! The other side of Lent. The other side of the passion. The other side of Holy Week! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! We are glad and grateful to welcome the sun and the Son with you this Easter Sunday morning. We look forward to being in God's word together today, to joyous music, and to breaking bread at tables all over the world. In the past weeks we have welcomed visitors from all over the country and around the world as far away as Indonesia. To one and all we say welcome. We are blessed to celebrate this holiest of days with you and to invite you to share signs of peace with those around you either in person or in the chat window on Facebook or chat.fpc.church.

## Δ The Peace

Rev. Thorne

May the peace of God be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Music during Passing of the Peace:** *I Expect a Miracle*

## Hebrew Bible Reading

Jill Huguet and Elder Mark  
Elsenheimer

*The Hebrew Bible reading this morning is from Psalm 118, verses 21-27.*

*Listen for a word from God:*

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.  
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.  
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord.  
The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with  
branches, up to the horns of the altar.

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

**Christian New Testament Reading** Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

Ben Cosgrove, and Catie  
Cosgrove, Myung Lee (*on camera*)

*The Christian New Testament reading today comes from the gospel of Mark, the 16th chapter, verses 1-8.*

*Listen for a word from God:*

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Anthem**

*I Need You Now*

Bertilla Baker, soloist  
(*from Costa Rica*)

**Sermon**

Imagine How it All Turns Out

Rev. Thorne

**Invitation:**

*We can receive your offering electronically this morning via PayPal or with a credit card at FPC.CHURCH. Scroll down to find the donate section. Depending on how you are viewing worship, you may need to open a new browser window or leave the worship stream momentarily.*

**Offertory**

*Marvelous*  
Stephanie Courtney, soloist with FPC choir  
*Recorded Easter 2019*

**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**

Ms. Eni

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Rev. Thorne

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.

## 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:

*(please pray the version and in the language that is closest to your heart)*

**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 for ever and ever. Amen**

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

*Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.*

**One:** What is our prayer on this day?

**All:** Shower 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, touch, and hear.  
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.

Music during Communion: The Rev. Dr. April Stace, harp

### **Δ Benediction**

Rev. Thorne

Dance, celebrate, sing, and shout for joy! Christ is Risen and Christ goes before us,  
into this world of fear and pain. He has called us to bring the Good News of healing  
and hope, of redemption. Go in peace, and feel the presence of the Risen Christ  
with you, now and forever. AMEN.

Please join us after worship for a Zoom fellowship hour. See, meet and chat with  
church members in small group rooms this Easter Sunday!

Δ Closing Song

*More Abundantly*  
First Church Choir, (Recorded Easter 2019)

Δ Postlude

### Prayer Requests

*“This is the confidence we have in approaching God:  
that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”  
(1 John 5:14 NIV)*

Rachelle Taylor and family on the passing of their beloved mother  
Elizabeth Johnson, daughter of Donna Johnson

Our world is changing daily, and yet we still believe in the power of prayer. We still desire to pray with and for our community. If you have a prayer request – a joy or a concern, please send your prayers to us at [info@firstchurchbrooklyn.org](mailto:info@firstchurchbrooklyn.org). We will add prayers to our worship bulletin each week and keep your prayers in our hearts and on our lips for the week to come. Thank you to Phil Schaffroth for sharing this idea for prayer with us.