

Southminster Presbyterian Church



Easter Sunday

*A Service for the Worship of God
In Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord*

April 4, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION:

If possible, please have a candle that you can light as we light the Christ Candle during worship. You might want to put out a few spring flowers, too!

Today is a Communion Sunday. Please have a cup of juice and a piece of any kind of bread for each person worshiping in your home.

GATHERING

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome, Announcements, and Joys and Concerns

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Marj Lawson

Call to Worship

Marj Lawson

One: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: Our long journey through the darkness is over.

All: We have danced into the light of Jesus' resurrection.

One: No more do we need to fear!

All: Jesus lives in our hearts and our spirits.

One: The risen Christ calls us to be a source of hope and joy for others.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

Hymn # 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

(omit verse 3)

Prayer of Adoration and Praise

Holy God, we give you thanks for the joy of the Resurrection. Hallelujahs rise from our lips to greet the risen Christ. We praise you that the tomb of death could not contain the Redeemer of life. With your love in our hearts, our anxieties and burdens are transformed, the boulders that once seemed immovable are pushed aside, and hope is born anew. In gratitude for your gift of abundant life, we will seek to enter the adventure of resurrection, living with compassion and Christ-like love. Amen.

Celtic Alleluia

The image shows a musical score for a Celtic Alleluia. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are marked with a '5' and the third with a '9'. The fourth staff is marked with a '12'. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Je - sus we praise you as Lord; All of the earth gives you glo - ry for your ma - jes - ty — fills the hea - ven, fills the earth.'

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Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Marj Lawson

Scripture Acts 10:39-43

Anthem "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth" from Handel's *Messiah*
Beth Menke, Soprano

Children's Time *Josh Sweeney*

Scripture John 20:1-18 *Rev. Laura Nile Tuell*

Hymn # 245 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" *verses 1 and 4*

Sermon "Set Free" *Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn # 157 "I Danced in the Morning" *omit verse 2*

Presentation of Offerings *Rev. Laura Nile Tuell*

Presentation Hymn # 233 "The Day of Resurrection" *verse 3*
(The organist will play the verse once. Then, we will sing it.)

Now let the heavens be joyful,
Let earth the song begin,
Let the round world keep triumph,
And all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen,
Our joy that hath no end.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to The Table *Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong*

Communion Song "The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing" *sung by Vocal Ensemble*
(Hymn # 505, verse one)

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving *Rev. Laura Nile Tuell*

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread and Lifting of the Cup

The bread broken and the cup poured by the pastors symbolizes our unity as the Body of Christ in this sacrament.

After the words, “The Body of Christ, given for you,” are spoken, serve yourself or a family member, saying the same words. After the words, “The Cup of the New Covenant, given for you,” are spoken, do the same.

Prayer After Communion and the Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

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 # 238

“Thine is the Glory”

verses 1 and 2

Benediction and Easter Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Anthem

“Hallelujah!”
Vocal Ensemble

from Handel's *Messiah*

Postlude

Jim Pera



The Easter flowers were given to the glory of God by the Worship Team.

The painting on the cover is “Many Shades of White” by Alfred Ng.