

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
2nd Sunday of Easter / Holy Humor Sunday

23 Nissan 5775

10:01 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Heut Triumphieret" on a subject by Curtin Raphael Atlas

Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say rejoice.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say rejoice.

We heard you twice the first time.

Sit down and let's sing something we know.

* Hymn 134 "Joy to the World"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Well, God, the last thing we want to do

is to tell you all the things we have done wrong.

It's embarrassing,

especially with all these nosey people standing around us.

How do we know they aren't holding hidden microphones,

ready to hold our mistakes and miscues against us?

Besides, it would be really damaging to our reputations

if anybody knew how we behaved when people weren't looking.

So, Lord, it's a good thing that You don't ever see us!

Uh ... oops ... sorry about that.

Maybe we better take a few minutes to confess our sins.

Lord, how much time do you have?

Uh ... right. OK, here it comes. Be merciful, we pray.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Easter Response 587 "Alleluia!"

Text: **"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"** **

** *Music Tip: When you have a good word, sing it over and over.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: John 20:19-31 (NT, p. 115)

Psalter: Psalm 133 (Hymnal 398)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" arr. C. Moglebust

Our young children are invited to attend "Joyful Noise" in room 103.

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 1:1-2:2-3:3-4:4

Sermon: "Complete Joy"

Rev. What's His Name

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn "Christians, We Are Made to Laughter"

Christians, we are made for laughter, born to giggle and guffaw!

Even in the great hereafter mirth is interspersed with awe.

So don't hold back, let it fill you, let your muscles do their thing!

Don't you worry, we won't drill you! Just let go and laugh and sing.

We are people with a Savior who was not above a joke.

Play with words was his behavior, he loved puns with all the folk.

Joy Christ showed us, joy Christ showers everywhere on everyone.

Turn your face up like the flowers, catch the joy and have some fun!

Christ was dead and now he's risen! Isn't that a cause for glee?

Love has shattered all the prisons we have built so carefully.

Now unfettered, free as breezes, giggles, snorts, and glee abound!

Even when our laughter wheezes, we praise God with every sound.

(Tune: "Hymn to Joy" Words: Jo Cassidy-Maloney, used by permission)

* Affirmation of Faith

***We believe God takes delight in his creation,
that God enjoys his people,
that God laughs at the self-important.
We believe Jesus told jokes that many did not understand,
that he took joy in his saving work,
that people are still astonished to discover he is alive.
We believe that joy is evidence of the Holy Spirit,
that love is stronger than the grave,
that all things will work out well for those who love God.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "Some Song Title Goes Here"

* Doxology (Hymnal 606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 623 "I've Got Peace Like a River"

Joyful Noise! participants will return to the sanctuary.

* Charge and Benediction

Let God's Spirit fill your doubts, your hopes, and your faith.

Christ is risen! Hooray!

Let the power of God overcome your fear, sadness, and timidity.

Christ is risen! Hoorah!

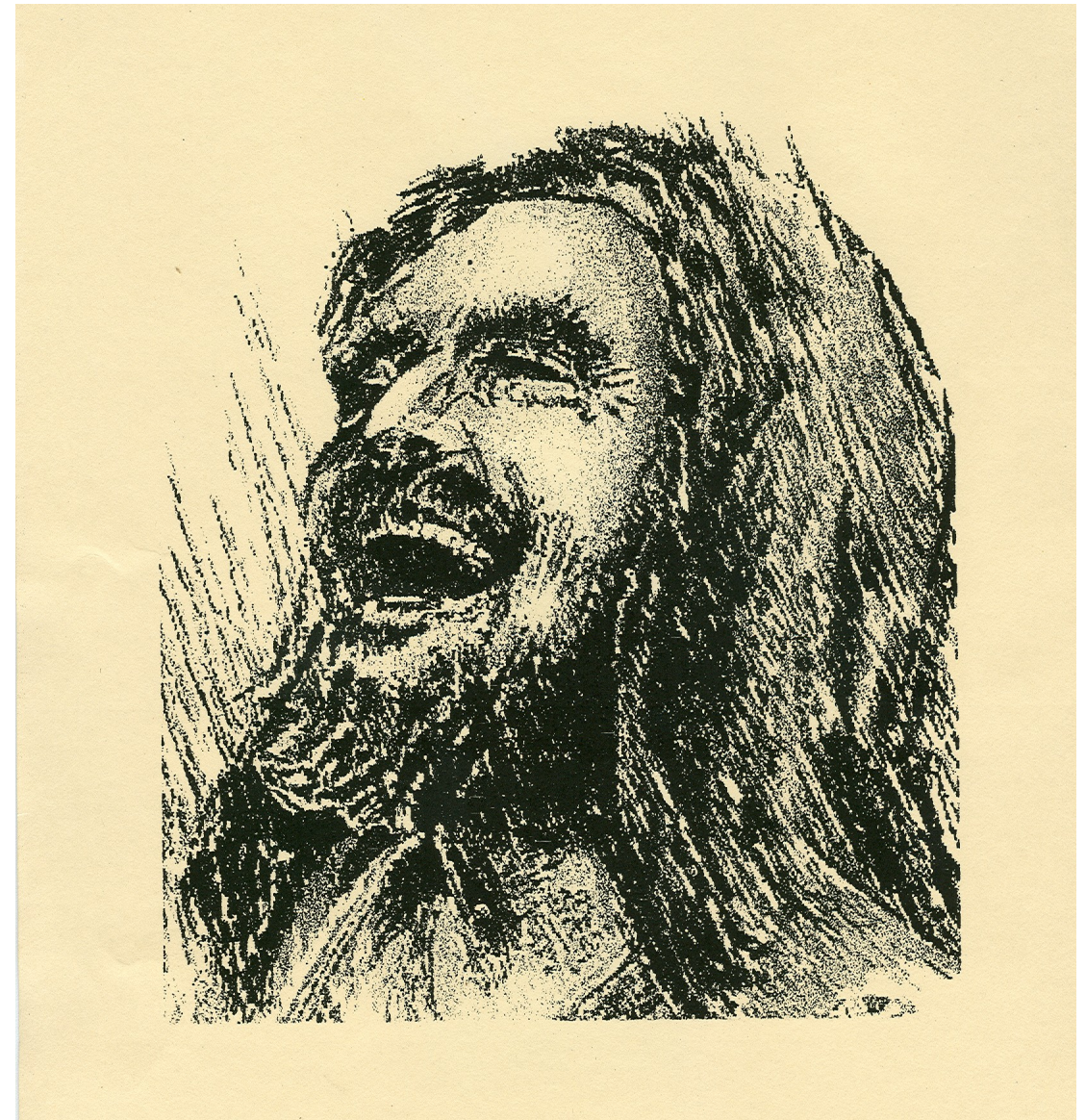
Let the Risen Lord lift you from death to new life.

Christ is risen, you betcha!

* Postlude "4'33'" Movement I John Cage

* All who are able shall do a handstand in the center aisle

Today we continue to celebrate Easter through a gentle observance of Holy Humour Sunday. This is an ancient Easter custom begun in the early centuries of Christian faith, as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with joy and laughter.



First Presbyterian Church
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The flowers this morning have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth P. Scheuer and W. John Scheuer by Diane and Jack Scheuer.

WHO'S WHO IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. What's His Name
Director of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide-E Ide-E Oh
Director of Music	Usansay Ellykay
Organist	Kay Ten Pins
Director of Bells	Dick and the Ding Dongs!
Liturgist	Jolly Griffiths
Trumpeter	Jeff Leas
Ushers	Dealer's Choice
Welcomers	These Are the Friendliest People We Found. Really.

This morning's prelude is Raphael Atlas' fugue based on a theme penned by Hoyt Curtin. The fugue as a musical form began in the 16th century expanding in complexity and reaching it's zenith in the Baroque era with J.S. Bach's fugues. Though Hoyt Curtin may not be a household name, like Bach, he nonetheless was a very prolific composer from the 1950's through the 1990's. To this day, many of his themes are recognized by millions of children as well as adults.

The offertory, "Entry of the Gladiators," is a military march written by Czech composer Julius Fucik in 1897. In 1910 it was arranged for a small band and gained popularity as its strains traveled across the United States.

The postlude is the first movement of 4'33". Written in 1952 by John Cage, the three movement work may be played on any instrument or combination of instruments. To this day it is a controversial piece that challenges the definition of music.

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked 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, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.