

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

10:00 a.m.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Gigue"

Douglas Wagner

Call to Worship

1 John 1:1-2

We declare to you what was from the beginning,  
what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,  
what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—

***This life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it,  
and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father  
and was revealed to us.***

This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it!***

\* Hymn 234

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

- 1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 2 'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying  
from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
- 3 Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection!
- 4 Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***Almighty God,***

***you have sent Jesus Christ as the light of the world,***

***exposing the lies that we tell,***

***revealing the falsehoods that we perpetuate,***

***unveiling the evil deeds that we have done,***

***and shining your light on what we have hidden in the shadows.***

***We hurt one another,  
distort the damage by speaking untruths,  
and resist the honesty of your love.  
In the name of Christ, we boldly ask for mercy.  
Cancel our sin. Cleanse us from all lawlessness.  
Restore us to walk in fellowship with you and one another;  
through Jesus Christ, the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Amen.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Easter Response 587                   ***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:36-48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

A Time with Children

Psalter: Psalm 4 (Hymn 776)

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn 486

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

- 1 Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,  
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
- 2 Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits; into joy and laughter lead.
- 3 Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.  
Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.
- 4 Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to listen for God's call.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship; trust and love God more than all.

\* Affirmation of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith, section 1

**In life and in death we belong to God.**

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**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 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.**

Offering

Offertory

"Praise to the Lord"

Helman

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* Hymn 547

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

- 1 "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."
- 2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."
- 3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

\* Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Fanfare Postlude"

Douglas Wagner

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\* All who are able are invited to stand.

### PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Leelah Farrell
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Director of Bell Choir	Richard Cochrane

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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**570/586-6306**  
**[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**

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## Church Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- Have you had your vaccines? [Make a reservation with our office](#) (570-586-6306) and join us in person at 10:00 am.
- Tune in online for our weekly service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

**Wednesday morning Bible study will continue for two more weeks.** Rev. Carter will lead the two remaining lessons of the morning Bible study, "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament," at 10 a.m. on **April 21 and 28**. It will be held live on Zoom, with a small group meeting simultaneously in Room 206. Would you like to be physically present? Contact the church office (586-6306) to make a reservation. Masks and safety rules apply!

**Dobson Scholarship:** All graduating High School members of the church who plan to further their education are invited to apply for the Paul R. Dobson Memorial Scholarship. To apply, download and complete the application from the church's website ([fpccs.org](http://fpccs.org)), and mail it by **May 8** to Janet Dobson, 105 Center Lane, N. Abington Twp., PA 18414. The winner will be announced during Graduate Recognition Sunday.

## Our next concert: Simple Gifts folk duo

Live: Friday, April 16, 7:00 pm

YouTube: April 18, 4:00 pm

Two women plus twelve instruments equals one good time when Simple Gifts takes the stage on Friday, April 16 at 7 pm.

This award-winning band performs on an impressive array of instruments, including two violins, mandolin, hammered dulcimer, recorders, banjo, and guitar plus some more unusual instruments like the bowed psaltery, baritone fiddle, shruti box, banjolin, guitjo, and dombek.

Simple Gifts presents a wide variety of ethnic folk music, including everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to hard-driving Klezmer freilachs, haunting Gypsy melodies, and exotic Balkan dance tunes. Throughout their performances, they put their own distinctive stamp on traditional tunes, blending styles from diverse cultures with their American roots.



The event is offered as a gift to the community. The Arts at First Presbyterian series is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Program, by a Lackawanna County Community Arts and Culture Grant, and by private contributions. We thank our donors for their support. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information, call the church office at 570-586-6306.

## CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

**Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to [camp.lackawanna.org](http://camp.lackawanna.org) to see what programs are being offered this summer and to register your children for camp! Family Camp registration is also open!**



**Our church provides scholarships** for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

**Camp Lackawanna is actively seeking staff for Summer Camp.** In addition to coun-selors, a cook is also needed. Applications can be filled out at [www.camplackawanna.org](http://www.camplackawanna.org)

### **DATES**

June 24-27  
June 28-30  
July 4-10  
July 11-17  
July 11-24  
July 18-24  
July 25-31  
August 1-7

### **CAMP**

Family Camp  
Mini Camp  
Wet n' Wild  
Music, Arts and Drama  
JH/SR 2-week  
Adventure Camp  
Night Owls  
Camp Olympics

### **AGE GROUP**

All Ages  
Ages 6-10  
Ages 7-16  
Ages 7-16  
Completed grades 6-11  
Completed grades 6-10  
Completed grades 3-10  
Ages 7-16

### **Mark Your CALENDARS!**

Saturday, May 1 at 9:00 a.m. – Church Clean-up Day

Friday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. – Our next Arts Series program features a Brass Band

Sunday, May 16 after Worship – “Re-Gathering” **PICNIC at Lackawanna State Park**