

# First Presbyterian Church

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

27 Nissan 5773

9:00 and 10:55 a.m.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music  
Concerns of the Church  
Prelude

“Dance Little Bird”

Rendall and Thomas

Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord! In heaven, there are no grumpy people.

**Let us rehearse for heaven by the lives we live here and now.**

Rejoice in the Lord! Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

**God has played a huge joke on the powers of death!**

\* Hymn 540 (PH) “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

In the spirit of the story Jesus told about the Pharisee and the tax collector, let us confess our sins together.

\* Prayer of Confession

**We thank you, God,  
that we are not like those people across the aisle from us.  
They are wretched sinners, captive to their mistakes,  
openly ignoring you in their daily affairs  
with no intention of ever improving themselves.  
Fortunately we are righteous, and not like them.  
We tithe all our money to your work,  
pray without ceasing,  
and never speak a harsh word to anybody.  
And look: here we are, in worship, while others are skipping out.  
Aren't you impressed with us? Especially me!**

[silent confession]

**Forgive us, Lord, for believing we are better than anybody else.  
Forgive us for the arrogance that divides our community.  
Forgive us for forgetting it is only your good humor that saves us;  
through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.**

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Easter Response

“Jubilate Deo”

Praetorious

**Jubilate Deo, Jubilare Deo! Alleluia!**

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

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

A Time with Children

Anthem

“The Royal Telephone”

Lehman

Epistle Lesson: Revelation 1:9-20 (NT, p. 245)

Sermon: “Lord, Don't Stick Out Your Tongue!”

Rev. Carter

*Sermon Series: Easter Imagination*

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Hymn 464 (PH)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

\* What We Believe and What We Want to Believe

**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.**

Commissioning of Tina Ide as Director of Educational Ministries

Offering / Offertory

“Humoresque”

Dvorak

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving (PH, p. 13) and the Lord’s Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*Please hold the bread until all are served, so that we might share it as a sign of our unity in Christ. As a sign of individual devotion and commitment, you may drink the cup as you are served.*

\* Prayer after Communion

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 559 (PH)

“We Gather Together”

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

arr. Lynn

-----  
\* All who are able shall stand.

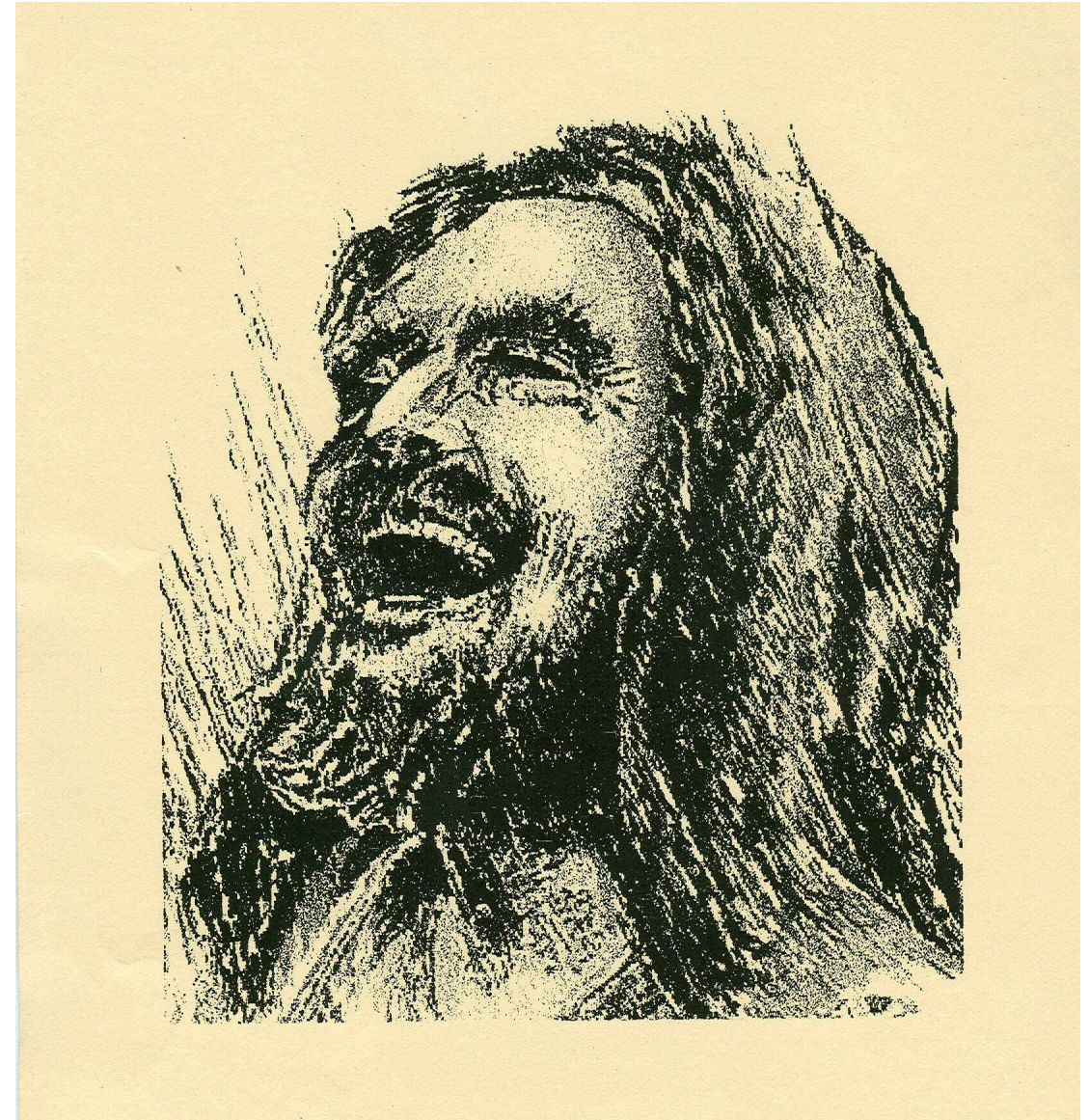
PH Presbyterian Hymnal **Sing** Sing! A New Creation (green songbook)

**The flowers** this morning have been given by Lonnie and Bob Lipscomb to the glory of God and in memory of their parents.

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

**WHO’S WHO IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE**

Pastor	His HolyMess, William G. Carter
Guest Minister	The Rev. Dr. James Martin
Director of Educational Ministries	St. Tina Ide
Director of Music	Doc Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay “Floor It!” Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Smiley Wayne Griffiths
Ushers	Anybody Who Signed Up at the Deacons Meeting
Welcomers	Really Friendly People



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**300 School Street**  
**Clarks Summit, PA 18411**  
**570/586-6306**  
[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)

### ***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.

### ***Revelation 1:9-20***

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he

held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades. Now write what you have seen, what is, and what is to take place after this. As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.