**March 31st, 2024**

**Easter Sunday**

**Communion Sunday**

**THE APPROACH**

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Lighting the Christ Candle:**  Please rise

ONE: ‘The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.’ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

**ALL: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. This is the light of the world, and the darkness cannot extinguish it.!**

(Light the candle)

**One**: Jesus Christ is Risen today! Let us Rejoice!  Let us now prepare our hearts to worship almighty God.

Light the candle.

**Musical Introit - #252** "He is good"

He is Lord, he is Lord;
he is risen from the dead, and he is Lord;
every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**Call to Worship**

**Hymn #814 –** “Morning has broken”

1 Morning has broken like the first morning;

blackbird has spoken like the first bird;

praise for the singing, praise for the morning,

praise for them springing fresh from the Word.

2 Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,

like the first dewfall on the first grass;

praise for the sweetness, praise for the morning,

sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning;

born of the one light Eden saw play;

praise with elation, praise every morning

God’s recreation of the new day!

**Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Assurance of Pardon**

**Passing the Peace**

**Hymn** “ Hey now! Singing Halleluia!”

Refrain

Hey now! Singing halleluia!

Hey now! The mornng has come!

Hey now! Singing alleluia!

The tomb was empty at the rising sun!

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 25:6-9

**Second Lesson:**   1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Responsive Psalm 31:9-16**

**ONE:** Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

**ALL: For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.**

**ONE**: I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

**ALL: I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.**

**ONE**: For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

**ALL: But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, ‘You are my God.’**

**ONE**: My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

**ALL: Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

**Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen, amen.

**Gospel Lesson:**  Mark 16:1-8

**Anthem –** “Lord of the dance”

**Sermon:** *“*He is Risen”

**Hymn: #243 -** “Jesus Christ is risen today”



**Offertory Prayer**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Lord’s Supper**

**The Invitation**

**Communion Hymn** **#530-** “I Come With Joy” vs. 1-3

1. I come with joy, a child of God,

forgiven, loved and free,

the life of Jesus to recall,

in love laid down for me,

in love laid down for me.

1. I come with Christians far and near,

to find, as all are fed,

the new community of love

in Christ’s communion bread,

in Christ’s communion bread.

1. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,

each proud division ends.

The love that made us, makes us one,

and strangers now are friends,

and strangers now are friends.

**Affirmation of Faith - Apostle’s Creed**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:** BoP #564

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up you hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer ending with

*. . . we join with the whole creation*

*to lift our hearts in joyful praise.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer ending with

*. . . proclaim the mystery of the faith*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Prayer ending with … and the people say

**Amen.**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymn #530 -**“I Come With Joy” vs. 4-5

1. The Spirit of the risen Christ.

unseen, but ever near,

it is such friendship better known,

alive among us here,

alive among us here.

1. Together met, together bound

by all that God has done,

we’ll go with joy, to give the world

the love that makes us one,

the love that makes us one.

**\*\*Benediction** - Go Now in Peace (Don Besig)

Go now in peace

Never be afraid

God will go with you each hour of every day

Go now in faith

Steadfast, strong, and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love,

And show you believe

Reach out to others

So all the world can see.

God will be there

Watching from above

Go now in peace,

In faith, and in love

Amen, amen, amen.

**Recessional**

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Minister: Rev. Andrew MacDonald (c) 902-331-0322

Organist: Clare Grieves

Office hours: Tues. to Fri. – 10 -1pm

Rev. MacDonaldoffice hours -Tues. to Thurs. 10-2 or by appointment

**Mission Statement:** But he’s already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It’s quite simple. Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously – take God seriously. Micah 6: 8-The Message

**Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. On the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits
at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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.

**Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen, amen.

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings Flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above Ye Heavenly Host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All are welcome at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you experience the love of God and of this congregation as we worship, celebrate, and serve one another.

**PASTORAL CARE:**

In order to provide support to the people of First Church, when you or a loved one is sick or in hospital, we encourage you to contact the church (902-752-5691), Reverend Andrew (902-331-0322) or Cathy Lewis, Chair of the Pastoral Care Team (902-759-9649), to inform us directly. It is also important that you inform the hospital that you would welcome a visit from your minister and/or your Elder.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mon., Apr.** 8**th, 6:30 p.m.** – The Board of Managers will meet.

**Tues., Apr.** 9**th, 6:30 p.m.** – Session will meet.

**Apr. 14th -May 19th** – Mark Thibeau will be leading a 6-week video Bible Study titled “In the Footsteps of the Saviour – Following Jesus through the Holy Land”, hosted by Max Lucado. These sessions will take place weekly in the Lower Hall at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the form outside the office door.

**Sat., Apr. 20th – 2:00p.m.-5:00p.m.** – The Kirk is hosting their annual “Spring Tea and Bake Sale” featuring tea/coffee and desserts along with door prizes and a Spring Quilt Raffle. Cost - $5.00; everyone welcome!

**NOTE**: - Coffee Hour is the 3rd Sunday of the month. As you know, we gratefully accept donations for the Food Bank any time, in particular, we ask that you bring a donation for the Food Bank Cart on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Thank you in advance.

**Camp Geddie Wish List** – Camp Geddie has issued a request for donation of supplies for the upcoming season; everything from dish detergent to Ziplock bags! Please see the blue posters on the office window and in the Upper Hall for details. All donations appreciated.

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Scripture Reader:** Sharon Mason

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) – Sherry Greene

 James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

 MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

**EARLY CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS**: Lynne Ann and Lois MacLellan