

***BENEDICTION**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The love of God our Father, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit remain with you always.

Amen.

***RESPONSE**

Hallelujah Chorus
Chancel Choir

Handel

OUR INVITATION

Every service of worship invites us to consider our relationship to Jesus Christ and to his church. If you are not vitally involved in some community of faith, perhaps this congregation is the place where you can worship, find fellowship, grow, and share in our mission and witness to the world. If you would like to discuss this important matter, please call the church office to speak with the pastor.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - Paula Kusewitt
Ushers - David Howard, Nick Scholl,
Richard Mauldin & Eric Schwartz

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The candle burning on the communion table today has significance in the story we have told liturgically this past week. During the Service of Darkness on Friday evening, the candles were extinguished to commemorate the coming death of the Savior. Today this candle burns brightly again to commemorate the Resurrection—that evil, darkness, sin, and death are never the last word! That is the theme of today's worship.

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Monday, April 5 - Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 6

9:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Women's Morning Circle meeting
in sanctuary

7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women's Night Circle Dinner Meeting
at Joe's Pizza & Pasta, 308 S. Galloway Ave.,
Mesquite, TX 75149

Sunday, April 11

8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

An **audio copy** of most recent sermons may be found on the church website fpcmesquite.org. From the home page menu, select the *worship* tab, then *sermon audio*, and then choose the sermon you wish.



THE CHALLENGE

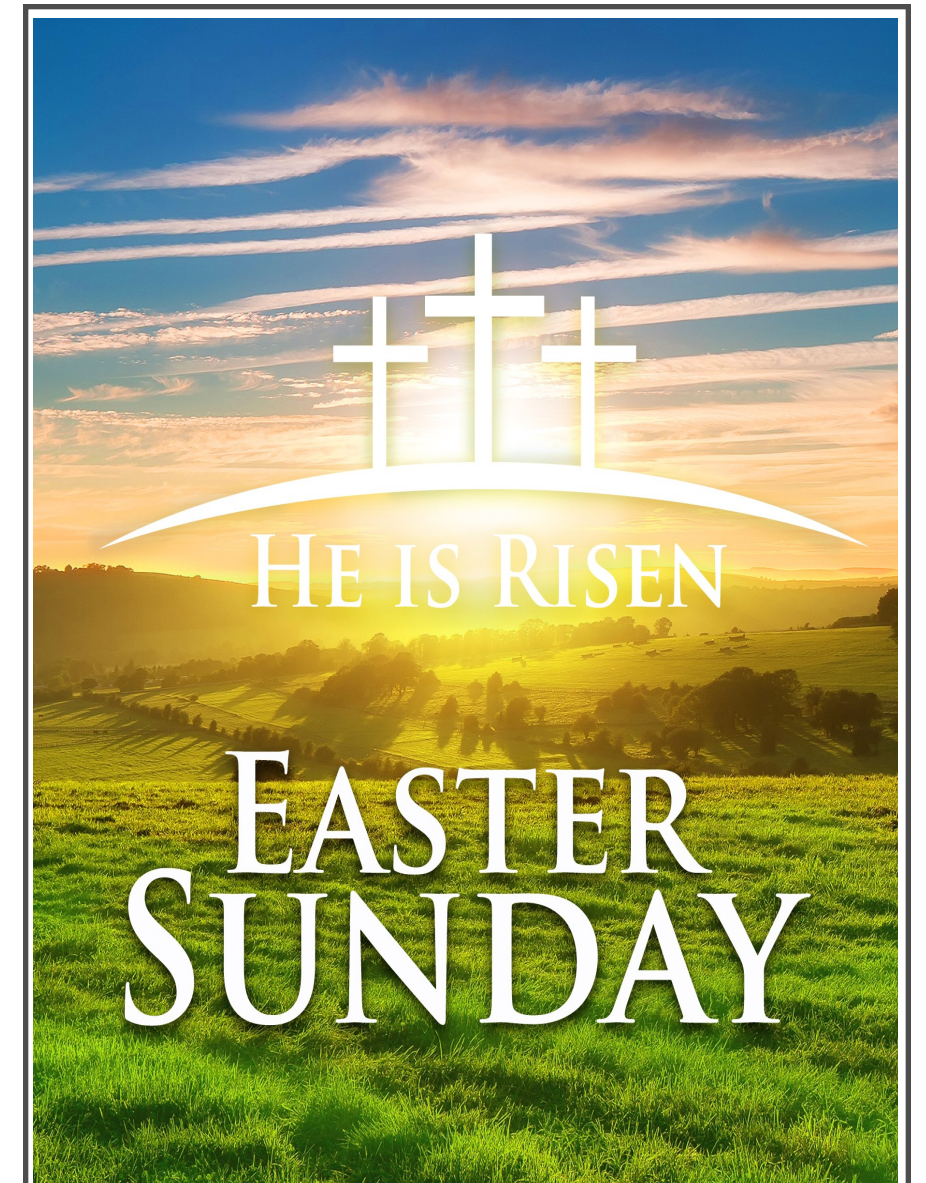
Let us carry on THE CHALLENGE to collect can goods and other non-perishable items. The donated items will be given to Sharing Life, as they feed those in need in our community. Our total for March was 178 cans.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
Ben Clifton, Director of Music Ministries
Ryoji Shimpō, Organist, Pianist
Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant
Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus

We want to thank the following who provided flowers for our services today:

Allelujah Outreach in honor of our Missionaries
Sue Bohmer in honor of Paula Kusewitt, P.W. Moderator
The Doughton Family in memory of Erastus B.J. Doughton
The Doughton Family in honor of Leila B. Doughton, Lynda and Dallas Ward,
Jack MacMillan, Leslie Ward, Leila B. and John Hinkle and Tripp Hinkle
Dave and Deborah Edling in honor of our children and grandchildren
Dave and Deborah Edling in honor of our church staff
Dave and Deborah Edling in honor of Ken and Judy Johnson
Dave and Deborah Edling in memory of Gaylord and Dorothy Edling
Roger Foltz in honor of my son, Scott, and daughter in law, Amanda Foltz
Debra Ford in memory of my dad, Ray Pendergrass
Debra Ford in memory of my sister, Lita Whatley
Dan and Linda Fricke in honor of our family
Dan and Linda Fricke in memory of our loved ones
Ronald and Sheila Hammer in memory of Sheila's father, Roger Rich
Ronald and Sheila Hammer in memory of Ronald's parents, Joe and Sarah Hammer
John and Quinda Hatfield in honor of the music department
Ken and Judy Johnson in memory of our parents Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Johnson and
Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Bowden
Ken and Judy Johnson in memory of brothers, Craig Johnson and Lee Bowden
Ken and Judy Johnson in honor of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren
Ken and Judy Johnson in honor of our church staff
Michael Johnson in honor of my parents, Ken and Judy Johnson
Michael Johnson in memory of my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Bowden and Mr.
and Mrs. J.C. Johnson
Patty Kim in memory of my husband, Stephen Kim, Sam and Celesta Criswell, Burt and
Curt Burton, and Jim Hostetler
John and Paula Kusewitt in honor of our parents and families, with our love
John and Paula Kusewitt in honor of Ben and Ryogi, with a "note" of appreciation for
continuing your music during the last year.
John and Paula Kusewitt in honor of our Pastor Emeritus, Dr. Tom Wilbanks, and his
many years of Christian service
John and Paula Kusewitt in honor of our church staff, thanks for all you do!
John and Paula Kusewitt in memory of our precious grandparents, with our love
Steve and Susan Leake in memory of Pat Smith
Steve and Susan Leake in memory of Loncy and Bettye Leake
Steve and Susan Leake in memory of Leroy and Pauline Tanner
Michael and Robbie Lee in honor of Estalene Marshall & Carmelita Acock
Paul and Sue Luce in memory of Edwin and Agnes Carr, and Robert Luce
Evelyn Parker as a gift to the church
Bob and Maurine Robinson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Hanby
Bob and Maurine Robinson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Winston Robinson
Robbie and Janice Robinson in memory of Marjorie Wilbanks Akin
John and Susan Scholl in memory of John H. and Irene Scholl
John and Susan Scholl in memory of Bailey & Miriam Northcott
Eric and Lori Schwartz in honor of our parents Dan and Linda Fricke,
Bob and Shirley Schwartz
Eric and Lori Schwartz in memory of our grandparents, Billie Hill,
Jeanette Schwartz and Earl and Lucille Jones
Hope Sheppard in honor and happiness for our first great-granddaughter, Zoey Norma
Sheppard
Hope Sheppard in honor and thankfulness for all my dear family
Hope Sheppard in loving memory of my beloved, for our walk and service of over 66
years, Rev. James "Jim" Sheppard
Hope Sheppard in deepest love and memory of our first born, Mark Stephen Sheppard
Hope Sheppard in love and memory of our daughter-in-law, Mary McFeron (Sheppard)
Hope Sheppard in love and memory of our daughter-in-law, Velia Mariscal (Sheppard)
Hope Sheppard in deepest memory of all our departed kin – Lawrences, Longleys,
Sheppards and Yorks
Ann Smith in honor of Smith and Dylan Rains
Ann Smith in honor of the church staff for all they do!
Paul F. Snyder in memory of my mother and father
David and Renee Stormer in memory of Renee's mother, Glenda Duncan
Gracy Thomas in honor of Larry Thomas
Gracy Thomas in honor of Evangelina Gonzalez
Gracy Thomas in memory of my sister, Blanca Dornak
Gracy Thomas in memory of Larry's parents, Roy and Venita Thomas
George Venner in memory of and Pat Venner
Dallas and Lynda Ward in memory of the Ward Family
Dallas and Lynda Ward in memory of the Carlson Family
Tom Wilbanks in appreciation for the 50 years Pete Allen served as church treasurer
Travis Windle as a gift to our church
Beverlee Witty in memory of Mel Witty
Beverlee Witty in memory of Nickie Wilbanks
Beverlee Witty in memory of Marjorie Wilbanks Akin



GUIDE TO WORSHIP

APRIL 4, 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 S. BELT LINE RD.

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!* arr. Cindy Berry

INTROIT *(vs. 1 & 3) Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

CALL TO WORSHIP *Easter Acclamation (Repeat three times)*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN 232

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!

who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!

our salvation have procured. Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!

where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

*OPENING PSALM AND PRAYER *from Psalm 118*

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever.

The Lord is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through and give thanks to the Lord.

I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

(Continued)

Glorious Lord of life, by the resurrection of Your Son You overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in Him. Grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*RESPONSE *(Hymn 581)*

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. A—men. A—men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

Almighty, Eternal, and Victorious God; You give strength to those who believe and hope to those who doubt; as we heard Your Word read and proclaimed, may we see the hope and strength of our Risen Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON #

John 11:38-44

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

THE SECOND LESSON #

John 20:11-18

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 236

The Strife Is O'er

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped;
Christ rises glorious from the dead: all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia!

SERMON

A Tale of Three Resurrections

Rev. Doughton

*HYMN 238

Thine Is the Glory

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. *(Refrain)*

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.

Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *(Refrain)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY *(Hymn 606)*

**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.**