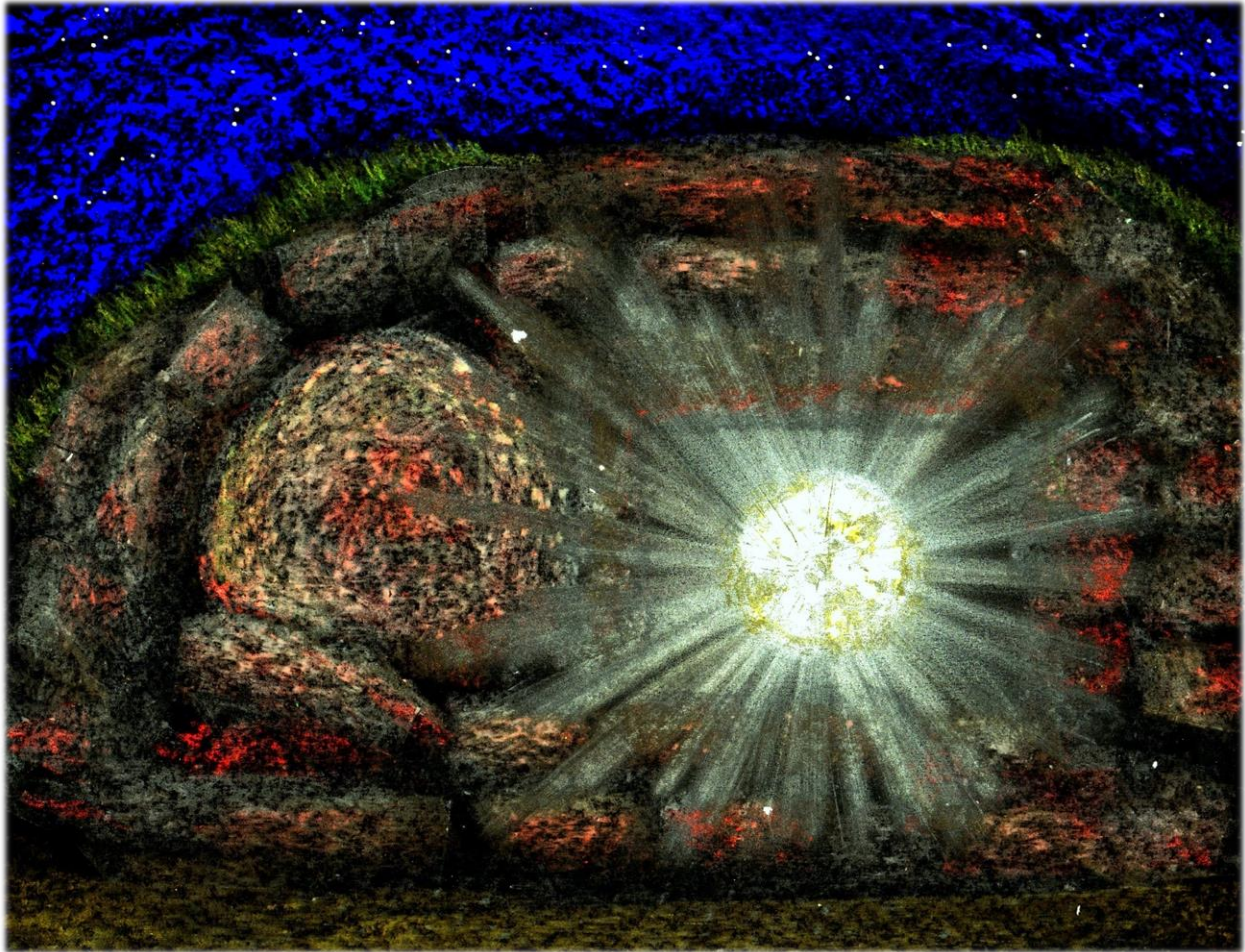


*First Presbyterian Church of Monroe
Resurrection of the Lord/Easter
April 4, 2021*



“If God can raise the dead – and just as important, if we believe God can raise the dead – then our despair will be temporary and our hope invincible, not because we know how to keep it alive but because God has never forgotten how to breathe life into piles of dust.”

*Barbara Brown Taylor
When God is Silent*

We Gather

Welcome

Prelude

“Three Days”

Call to Worship

Beloved Church,

Behold the victory of our God:

Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Sin and death shall reign no more.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let this place resound with joy.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer

Hymn

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit
We have been raised from the waters of baptism
to share in your glorious resurrection.

Yet we have not lived as Easter people.

We are unsure of your promise,

confused about your will,

and afraid in the face the danger.

Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, but do not
recognize your presence.

Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know
you with confidence.

Whenever we are tempted to fear death,
give us courage to confess your Easter victory.

Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts,
keep our minds on your reconciling love.

Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil,
reveal again to us your triumph over the destructive
powers of oppression.

Forgive us our sin

and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation
through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

You are invited to turn to wave to each other as a sign of graceful greetings.

A Story for All Ages *(Time with Children)*

The Story

Let's learn a new song:

Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!

Let's offer a repeat-after-me-prayer:

“We offer thanks

we offer thanks

for dreamers true

for dreamers true

for all they are

for all they are

and all they do

and all they do.

Let us become

let us become

dreamers too

dreamers too

and bring new life

and bring new life

to me and you!

to me and you!

Amen!

Amen!

We Hear the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9 (NRSV)

Helyn Schroeder, Liturgist

Second Reading

Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24

Helyn Schroeder, Liturgist

Sounds of Resurrection

“Alleluia No. 1”

Gospel Reading

John 20:1-18

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Sung:

Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart,
teach me to move in the power of your Spirit,
teach me to [move] in the light of your presence,
teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.

Offering Our Resources and Our Energy

Helyn Schroeder, Liturgist

Sung:

Teach me to pray in the power of Easter,
following Christ in a life resurrected,
teach me to act with compassion and justice,
teach me to dance with the beat of your heart.

We Step Out into the World

Song for Stepping Out into the World

“Sing With All the Saints in Glory”

Charge

Benediction

Handbell Benediction

“Alleluia”

Postlude

Liturgy used/adapted from Feasting on the Word, Lenten Companion. Westminster John Knox Press. Louisville. 2014. p. 148-152.

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Rob Edwards, Minister of Music
Diane Adams, Liturgist
Isaac Fankhauser, Sound Team
Josh McMann, Sound Team
Randy Stiffler, Sound Team



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Easter Flowers



(Thank you for your Easter Flower orders! You may take your plant home after the Worship Service on Easter Sunday, April 4. The number in parentheses is the quantity of the type of plant that you may take home.)

Daffodils Presented by:

Bob and Nancy Douglas (4)
Bob and Nancy Douglas
Bob and Nancy Douglas
Bob and Nancy Douglas
Jim and Sue Heisler (1)

In Loving Memory Of:

Arlene Douglas
Dale Douglas
Frank Taylor
Wilma Taylor
Our Parents

Hyacinths Presented by:

Dan and Pat Batista (1)
John and Judy Chesman (1)
Yoshie Pomerville (1)

In Loving Memory Of:

Nick and Edwina Batista
Loved Ones
Mother

Lilies Presented by:

Anne Todd (5)
Anne Todd
Anne Todd
Anne Todd
Anne Todd

In Loving Memory Of:

Caralee Stevens Hoffmeyer
McKenzie Orde
Leona Todd
Robert Todd
Stuart and Wanda Todd

Tulips Presented by:

John and Kay Gawle (1)

In Honor Of:

John and Kay Gawle

Tulips Presented by:

Dan and Pat Batista (1)
John and Kay Gawle (4)
John and Kay Gawle
John and Kay Gawle
John and Kay Gawle
Yoshie Pomerville (1)

In Loving Memory Of:

Frank and Wilma Taylor
Rita Gawle
Walter and Lottie Gawle
Ralph and Louise Graessley
George McCathney
Frank Connoly

He is Risen! Alleluia!