



**First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 25, 2021**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE**

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR**

**READING OF GOD’S WORD**

Psalm 2

**PRAYER**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

*From Psalm 68*

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, Sing praises to the Lord,

**To Him who rides upon the highest heavens, which are from ancient times;**

**Behold, He speaks forth with His voice, a mighty voice.**

Ascribe strength to God; His majesty is over Israel and His strength is in the skies.

**O God, You are awesome from Your sanctuary.**

**The God of Israel Himself gives strength and power to the people.**

**Blessed be God!**

**HYMN #246**

“Christ is Alive!”

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
 The cross stands empty to the sky.  
 Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
 Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound  
 to distant years in Palestine,  
 but saving, healing, here and now,  
 and touching every place and time.

3 In every insult, rift, and war  
 where color, scorn, or wealth divide,

Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
 and lives, where even hope has died.

4 Women and men, in age and youth,  
 can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
 and find the way, the life, the truth,  
 revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
 good news to this and every age,  
 till earth and sky and ocean ring  
 with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before you and confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. We carry on our lives as if You do not exist and we fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask your forgiveness, and we ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may give witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You have called us to be regardless of where we are or what we are doing. Draw us to You and help us build our a stronger relationship with You. Amen.**

(silent confession)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### RESPONSE #447

"We are Forgiven"

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

## CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

*The Westminster Confession Shorter Catechism*

Q. 15. What was the sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created?

**A. The sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created, was their eating the forbidden fruit.**

(Genesis 3.6, 12)

## HYMN

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

## SCRIPTURE

John 20.24-31

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> Eight days later His disciples were again inside, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be to you." <sup>27</sup> Then He said to Thomas, "Place your finger here, and see My hands; and take your hand and put it into My side; and do not continue in disbelief, but be a believer."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you now believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

<sup>30</sup> So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SERMON

"These Things Have Been Written"

Rev. Tony Rivera

**HYMN #817**

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:  
"My peace be with you here."

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near  
and seek where you are found.

2 We may not touch your hands and side,  
nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice,  
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

4 And when our life of faith is done,  
in realms of clearer light  
may we behold you as you are,  
with full and endless sight.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL 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 RECEIVE OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS****PRAYER OF DEDICATION****HYMN**

"He is Lord"

1 He is Lord, He is Lord  
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord  
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

2 He is love, He is love  
He has shown us by his life that He is love:  
All His people sing with one voice of joy  
That Jesus Christ is love.

3 He is Life, He is Life  
He has died to set us free and He is life:  
and he calls us all to live evermore,  
For Jesus Christ is life.

**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

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**Participants in this worship service:**

The Rev. Anthony Rivera, pastor  
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist  
Tom Ochs, videographer | Judy Mysels, greeter

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This service may be found posted on our website at [www.fpcedgewood.org](http://www.fpcedgewood.org), on our YouTube channel,  
or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at [www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood](http://www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood)



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**IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES**

- everyone must wear a mask properly
- there is a 50-person maximum capacity in the sanctuary, including the pastor and worship staff
- refrain from singing, handshaking, and hugging
- please move personal discussions after the service outdoors to avoid inside gatherings
- please observe social distancing in the pews - space apart from each other in the marked pews

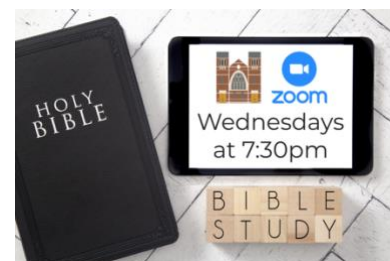
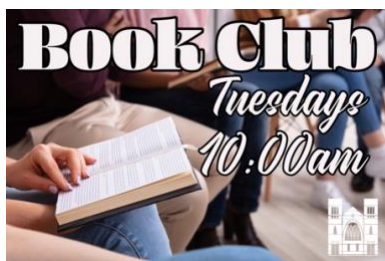
We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have.  
Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube  
for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

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**Weekly Zoom Meetings**

We will continue our weekly gatherings on Zoom for prayer, discussion, and study.

On Mondays at 7:30pm, we gather for intentional prayer focusing on our members, community, and world. Tuesday mornings at 10:00am is the weekly Book Club meeting. The group decides on a book that they read together and discuss the week's portion. During March, they focused on Lamentations as a Lenten study. And Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm is a Bible study led by Pastor Tony.



An e-mail invitation is sent out weekly with Zoom links, meeting ID and passcode. To be added to the email list, contact the office. And if you don't use Zoom on your device, you can call in to the meetings to participate by voice. Call Judy in the office to receive the number, meeting ID and passcode to participate if you don't receive the email.



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,  
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to  
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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