



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 30, 2008

Eleven o'clock

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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## THE GATHERING

*The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Please place the prayer cards in the offering for inclusion in the Pastoral Prayer. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.*

*\* Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE                      Sarabande for the Morning of Easter                      Herbert Howells

\* HYMN 113                      Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!                      Llanfair

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise be to God in whom we can take refuge.

**People: Our God watches over us, even in the darkness.**

Leader: Though evil surrounds us and we grow weary;

**People: God is ever watchful, protecting and guiding us.**

Leader: Give your trust to the Lord of Life.

**People: We place our lives in God's loving hands.**

### INTROIT

J.S. Bach

*Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands for our offenses given;  
But not at God's right hand he stands and brings us life from heaven;  
Therefore let us joyful be, and sing to God right thankfully,  
Loud songs of alleluia! Alleluia!*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshiping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)*

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Dawn Murdock and Trevor LaVine*

### MINUTE FOR SERVICE

*Beneranda Baez*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of empty tombs: when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us voice. When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay hidden behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with your joy. Come past the locked doors of our hearts, breathe peace into our souls, and be with us forever. We pray in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

### PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. We are God's new creation. Believe the Good News!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

### RESPONSE

Hymnal No. 106, Verse 1

*Alleluia No. 1*

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

*Jesus is Lord of all the earth.*

*He is the King of creation.*

*Alleluia...*

**\* EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

*People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your neighbor - e.g., *“The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”*

Response - *“And also with you.”*)

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

+ *Children and Youth leave for their classes.* +

**\* HYMN 149**      The Head That Once Was Crowned      St. Magnus

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST LESSON**                      Acts 2:22-32

**ANTHEM**                      O Sons and Daughters                      *arr. John Ferguson*  
*The text may be found in the Hymnal at No. 117*

**SECOND LESSON**                      John 20:19-31

**SERMON**                      “Keepin' It Real”                      Rev. Richard S. Hong

**OFFERTORY**                      Sing Ye to the Lord                      *Edward Barstow*

*Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea.*

*Mighty victim from on high,  
hell's fierce powers beneath thee lie;  
thou hast conquered in the fight,  
thou hast brought us life and light:  
now no more can death appall,  
now no more the grave enthrall;  
thou hast opened paradise,  
and in thee thy saints shall rise.  
Alleluia, Amen.*

EXODUS 15:21 AND R. CAMPBELL

\* THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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.

THE SENDING OUT

\* HYMN 118

The Day of Resurrection!

Lancashire

\* BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Postlude on “O Sons and Daughters”

Guilmant

*(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)*

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## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Acts 2:22-32 (NRSV)

"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—  
23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. 24 But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. 25 For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; 26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. 27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. 28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'  
29 "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' 32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

### John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

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." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."  
24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 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." 26 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." 27 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." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 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." 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 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.