

MARCH 30, 2024 + 7:00 P.M.

Easter Vigil



EDGEWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In keeping with the Jewish faith of Jesus, a new day begins at sunset rather than sunrise, and so tonight begins the celebration of Easter. We begin outside the church in darkness, symbolizing our separation from God and our yearning to be reunited with God.

A new fire is lit, symbolizing the hope of the Resurrection and the love of God.

Service of Light

Greeting and Introduction

One: *Grace and peace from Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.*

All: *And also with you.*

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Paschal Flame

Leader All

The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Processional and Litany of the Saints

Mindful that on Easter heaven and earth grow a bit closer, we call upon the memories of the ancestors of our faith who have gone before us.

Entering the Church

Upon knocking, the doors of the church open to symbolize the opening of Christ's tomb. We enter the Sanctuary in darkness. Please take your seats and await the passing of the Light of Christ.

Leader All

The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

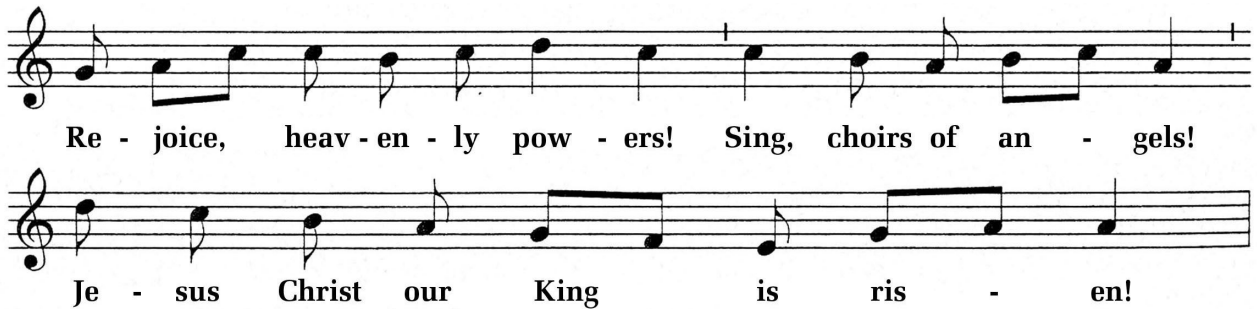
Spreading the Light

Leader All

The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Easter Proclamation

One: *Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around
God's throne! Jesus Christ our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!*



All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: *Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Let the shadows vanish forever!*

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: *Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!*

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: *This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates
the homes of all believers. This is the night when first you saved our forebears: you freed
the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea. This is
the night when the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin! This is the night when
Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.*

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: *Lord God, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your mercy
to free those in bondage through the depth of Christ's love. Most blessed of nights,
chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead! The power of this holy night dispels
all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy; it casts out
hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride. Night truly blessed, when heaven
is wedded to earth and we are reconciled with God! May this Easter candle always
dispel the shadows of night!*

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Please extinguish candles and pass them to the outer aisle

Service of Readings

Reading “The Story of Creation”
Genesis 1:1–4a; 2:4–7

Hymn 20 “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings. (*Refrain*)

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky: (*Refrain*)

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. (*Refrain*)

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. (*Refrain*)

Reading “Israel’s Deliverance at the Red Sea”
Exodus 14:19–25

Hymn “Wade in the Water” African American spiritual

Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water.
God’s gonna trouble the water.
God’s gonna trouble the water.
Wade, wade, wade, wade, wade, wade, in the water.

Reading “Invitation to Life with God”
Isaiah 55:1–8

Hymn 654. “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Remembrance of Baptism

Invitation to Dianoigo

One: *The Lord be with you.*

All: And also with you.

One: *Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us.*

All: It is right to give and receive love.

One: *As water is poured onto our feet/hands, we proclaim a mystery of faith,
“Ama, hindi ko kayang mag-isa” (“God, I cannot do this alone.”)*

All: Christ is with us always, to the end of the age.

Reading “A New Heart and a New Spirit”
Ezekiel 36:25–26

Hymn 778 “As Pants the Deer for Living Streams”



1 As pants the deer for liv - ing streams, in dry or des - ert space,
2 Tears are my bread both night and day; fools crush me, soul and bone.
3 Deep calls to deep, the bil - lows roar; they cov - er me with pain.
4 O send your light to guide me home; my Sav - ior, guide me still.



I thirst for you, O liv - ing God; I long to see your face!
They laugh and ask, “Where is your God?” I hope in you a - lone.
I cry for heal - ing and for home; God, show your love a - gain!
With shout - ing pil - grims I will come to climb your ho - ly hill.



O how I miss the hap - py days when with the throng I'd praise!
Why cast me off? Where have you gone? Why is your grace with - drawn?
With - out your peo - ple, who am I? With - out you I will die.
Then with the harp I'll sing your praise; my hap - py voice I'll raise.



Take cour - age now, my trem - bling heart, for God will take your part!

Reading “Valley of the Dry Bones”
Ezekiel 37:1-14

Solo “Dry Bones” African American spiritual

— *The organ crashes to represent the breaking of the tomb* —

Proclamation of the Resurrection

One: *Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Ringling of the Bells

***Hymn 232** “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

— *The congregation processes to the front of sanctuary and is seated* —

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! sinners 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!

Passing of the Peace

One: *As we celebrate God’s triumph over sin and death,
let us not be strangers to one another, but family in Christ.
May the peace of Christ be with you.*

All: And also with you.

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Epistle Romans 6:3–11

Psalter Psalm 30

Gospel Mark 16:1–8

Meditation Joseph L. Morrow

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

One: *Christ is risen!*

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: *Lift up your hearts.*

All: We lift them to God.

One: *Let us give thanks to God.*

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: . . . *who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (*sung*). The Hymnal, 565

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*). The Hymnal, 566

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

***Hymn 507 “Come to the Table of Grace”**

Come to the table of grace.
Come to the table of grace.
This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine.
Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace ...

Come to the table of love ...

Come to the table of hope ...

Come to the table of joy ...

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn 248 “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! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

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!

Charge and Blessing

*One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord in the power of Christ's resurrection.
Alleluia! The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!*

All: Amen.

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Symphonie V Charles-Marie Widor
Toccata

Welcome, from the Edgewater Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church, and Fourth Presbyterian Church communities of faith! We are grateful to be worshipping with you on this holy evening. We would be delighted if you would **let us know you are here by using the QR codes** in the Narthex as you leave the Sanctuary.



In this Eastertide, if you would appreciate resources for your personal prayer and reflection, **daily Eastertide devotions** (fourthchurch.org/devotions) are available via email by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ Another resource for your prayer and reflection in this joyous season is the weekly **Eastertide “Rhythm and Word” video series**. These brief videos (*approximately 10 minutes each*) are available via YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), with a new video released each Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, we invite you to sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



We hope you will **join us Easter Sunday** for our joyous celebrations of the resurrection!

Edgewater Presbyterian Church will gather for Easter worship at 11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church will have a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. at Promontory Point and Easter worship in their Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Presbyterian Church will gather for four services: **6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service** with Communion at Oak Street Beach; **9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Easter services** in the Sanctuary; and **2:00 p.m. Easter “The Gathering: Communion at 2:00.”** (*Note that the second Fourth Church morning service in the Sanctuary begins a half hour later than usual to accommodate the number of worshipers*). ✨ An **Easter program for children** will be held at Fourth Church in the Gratz Center at 9:30 a.m. on Easter; **nursery care will be available** between 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

The Fourth Church 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services will be **livestreamed** on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), with the morning prelude beginning at approximately 9:15 a.m. and the service available for viewing anytime after that. **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen live via phone to the 9:30 service by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service.

Worship Leaders

Kristin Hutson Pastor, Edgewater Presbyterian Church

David Black Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor, Fourth Presbyterian Church

Cole Seaton Tenor Soloist

John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music

The Lenten One Great Hour of Sharing Offering touches the lives of those in need, responds to injustice, provides shelter, and feeds the hungry, both here in our city and around the world.

Gifts to this offering support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People programs as well as Fourth Church Meals Ministry and Chicago

Lights Social Service Center and Tutoring. To make a One Great Hour of Sharing gift, you can use an envelope from the pew racks, placing it in an offering box at the Sanctuary exit, or designate “OGHS” when giving at fourthchurch.org/give or via Venmo.

Hymns are from *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340. The Communion liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost*. Westminster John Knox Press.



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