

*Serving Today*

SOUND: Olin Babb  
FLOWER DELIVERY: Gary Hallen

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THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED  
TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
in honor of our church staff and our church family  
by Claudia Byrd.  
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**First Presbyterian Church**  
Kingsport, Tennessee

*Seeking to see the face of Christ...  
Striving to be the hands of Christ*



*Communion Sunday*  
April 7, 2024  
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“He Lives” arr. Carol Tornquist  
*Donna Hathaway, guest pianist*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The tomb was found empty!

People: **What does this mean?**

Leader: Jesus has risen!

People: **What does this mean?**

Leader: Jesus comes to us, saying, “Peace be with you!”

People: **What does this mean?**

Leader: O ye of little faith, do not doubt, but believe!

People: **Come, let us walk the journey of faith, acknowledging our doubts but holding on to hope, for Christ is Risen!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 245

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you bring life out of dead ends, and hope amid despair. Forgive us for doubting that you are still at work even in the darkest hour, even in the most painful moments. Forgive us for our hesitant action, our cautious compassion, our too-frequent reluctance. Shape in us a trust that leads to faithful witness and bold compassion. Mold us in your love that loosens our worry and eases our anger. Make us true disciples filled with love, acting with justice, and living out hope.**

*(silent prayer)*

KYRIE *Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.* D. Johnson

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Christ forgives the most impossible sins, overcomes the greatest fears, comforts the loudest cries, and breaks down the strongest barriers to his love. Through the resurrection, Christ’s power is at work here and now. Brothers and sisters, know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

“Give Thanks” *(Easter version)*

***Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Risen One; give thanks, for in His vict’ry we shall rise with the Son. And now, let the weak say, “We are strong”; let the poor say, “We are rich, because of what the Lord has done for us!” Give thanks. Give thanks.***

\*PEACE OF CHRIST

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Hebrews 11: 1-3*

GOSPEL READING

*John 20: 19-31*

SERMON

“While We Were Outside the Room” Mike Shelton

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 2206

“Without Seeing You”

*(Solo Refrain: All repeat...then solo verses; All on Refrain)*

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(11:00) Communion will be served by intinction at the 11:00 a.m. service. Worshippers are invited to come forward by rows, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and partake. If you prefer, individual cups are available from the elder closest to the outside aisle. If you have difficulty coming to the front, an elder will be happy to serve you in your seat.*

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSICAL MEDITATION

PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

(8:45)

“I Come with Joy”

***We’ve broken bread and shared the wine, forgiven, loved, and free;  
inspired to love and serve our Lord in all things faithfully, in all things faithfully.***

***Put on the robe of righteousness, fit for the kingdom feast;  
God’s grace has woven us as one, the greatest and the least, the greatest and the least.***

***Together met, together bound by all that God has done,  
We’ll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.***

(11:00)

“He Holds the Keys”  
*Brenden Christie, tenor*

Jon Mohr

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Your risen life is in us, Gracious God, and we delight in rejoicing in what you have done in our lives and in the world. Receive these gifts and offerings, given with joyful and grateful hearts, and use them, we pray, to proclaim the good news of the risen Christ. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 246

“Christ Is Alive!”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONCLUDING PRAISE

“Stand Up For Jesus”

arr. Jack Taylor

*\*Those who are able please stand*