

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

The Lord is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed.**

Announcement of the Resurrection

John 20:1-18

GATHERING

**Prelude** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (Hayes)

David Thompson

**Call to Worship**

This is the day:

**when tears are wiped away;**

**shattered hearts are mended;**

**fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day the Lord:

**rolls away the stone of fear;**

**throws off death's clothes;**

**goes ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day the Lord has made:

**death has no fear for us;**

**sin has lost its power over us;**

**God opens the tombs of our hearts**

**to fill us with life.**

This is the day - Easter Day!

**Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!**

**\*Hymn of Praise #232**

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

**\*Call to Confession**

Becky Wheeler

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God,**

**in raising Jesus from the tomb**

**you have given us the sure sign of your power**

**to deliver us from sin and death**

**and to renew our whole creation.**

**We confess that we still fall into doubt and fear.**

**We continue to cling to selfish ways**

**and doubt your power to make all things new.**

**Forgive our lack of faith.**

**Have mercy on our weakness.**

**Raise us from the death of sin**

**that we may live with Christ in the joy of his resurrection,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Friends, believe

the good news.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*Gloria Patri #581**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,**

**world without end. Amen, amen.**

THE WORD

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon on the Steps**

**Anthem**

“The Lord Is Risen Today” (Larson)

Chancel Choir

The angel greeted the women who came to the tomb in dismay.

“Do not be afraid,” said the angel, “but hear the words I say:

He is risen!” Alleluia! “The Lord is risen today! Go quickly and tell the good news.

The Lord is risen today! The Lord is risen today!”

The women ran from the graveside rejoicing in what they had heard.

They proclaimed the message the angel had shared of their risen Lord!

“He is risen!” Alleluia! “The Lord is risen today! Go quickly and tell the good news.

The Lord is risen today! The Lord is risen today!”

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;

The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.

From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,

our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

“He is risen!” Alleluia! “The Lord is risen today!

Go quickly and tell the good news. The Lord is risen today!

The Lord is risen today, today!”

**First Reading**

Acts 10:34-43 (Pew Bible OT p.129)

**Second Reading**

Colossians 3:1-4 (Pew Bible NT p.201)

The Word of God, for us, the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon from the Pulpit**

“If”

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

(A Declaration of Faith, 4.5)

**We are certain that Jesus lives.**

**He lives as God with us,**

**touching all of human life with the presence of God.**

**He lives as one of us with God.**

**Because he shares our humanity**

**and has bound us to himself in love,**

**we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.**

**We declare that Jesus is Lord.**

**His resurrection is a decisive victory**

**over the powers that deform and destroy human life.**

**His lordship is hidden.**

**The world appears to be dominated by people and systems**

**that do not acknowledge his rule.**

**But his lordship is real.**

**It demands our loyalty and sets us free**

**from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.**

**We maintain that ultimate sovereignty**

**now belongs to Jesus Christ**

**in every sphere of life.**

**Jesus is Lord.**

**He has been Lord from the beginning.**

**He will be Lord at the end.**

**Even now he is Lord.**

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to the Lord**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**(Prayer continues concluding with the Lord's Prayer [#35 in hymnal])**

**Words of Institution**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

**Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us**

**you make yourself known in the breaking of bread.**

**Let us now go from this place,**

**fed at your table and filled by the Spirit,**

**to walk with you all the days of our lives,**

**and proclaim the glory of your resurrection**

**to all the world. Amen.**

**Service of Giving**

**Offertory**

“Be Still My Soul” (arr. Hadlock)

Jim Simmons

**\*Doxology #606**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #245**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**\*Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

**\*Postlude**

“Festive Postlude on Llanfair” (McDonald)

Rita Harmon

~~~~~

*\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

The arrangement in worship today is given for the glory of God and in honor of Mac Carroll's birthday.

**Please remember in prayer:**

Nancy Smith; Hugh Fincher; Tommy Bedenbaugh & family; our neighbors experiencing homelessness; a friend facing heart surgery; Lea Wilson; Missy Wirthman; Don Berry; Joy Clemmer; Buck Jolley; Wyatt Aiken; Emma June; Dave Newkirk; Carl Raleigh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Next week's lectionary readings are:**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16:1-11; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

**Circle 1**

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM in the church parlor. Everyone is invited to share in fellowship and the Bible study lead this month by Deborah Smith. The study is Lesson 7: Sabbath and Self-Care.

### An Odd Couple: Jonah and Ruth: A new class

We began a new adult study on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:45. The class will use the Kerygma resource written by Carol J. Miller, a Methodist elder. We will explore “long ago and far away” stories of an unusual prophet named Jonah and of a faithful daughter-in-law named Ruth. What do Jonah and Ruth have in common? Why are they linked together in this study and called “an odd couple”? All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings in the parlor at 9:45.

### New Church Directory

We have begun to compile a new church directory. You should have received an email with a link to complete a Google form. You can also get a hard copy of the form in the church office. The form will also include a schedule for taking photos to include in the directory.

### THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**April 9, 1945:** Dietrich Bonhoeffer is hanged by Nazis at Flossenbürg Concentration Camp. Shortly before the end he says, “This is the end... for me, the beginning of life.”

**April 10, 1868:** First complete public performance of Brahms' *Requiem* (officially titled *A German Requiem*) in the cathedral of Bremen, Germany. It was Good Friday, and listeners recognized it as a masterpiece. The composer took his texts from the German Lutheran translation of the Bible.

**April 13, 1742:** World premier of Handel's *Messiah* in the Fishamble Street Musick Hall in Dublin, Ireland. The oratorio begins with a beautiful overture, followed by the recitative, “Comfort Ye,” based on a prophecy by Isaiah. The famous “Hallelujah” chorus concludes the second part.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Sunday, April 9

9:45 AM Intergenerational Sunday School – Parlor  
9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt  
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

### Monday, April 10

Church Office Closed  
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room

### Tuesday, April 11

10:30 AM Circle 1 – Parlor  
7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting – FLC

### Wednesday, April 12

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

### Sunday, April 16

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor  
9:45 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
12:30 PM Session Meeting – Conference Room

### Upcoming

April 16 – Session Meeting  
April 22 – Soup Kitchen

### NEXT STEPS

- Plan to be at Sunday School for the study of Jonah and Ruth
- Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- Complete and return your Church Directory Form
- Contribute to our hymnbook loan program  
(see 3/26 LimeLight for more information)
- Make reservation for Wednesday Night Supper

### Praying for Our Congregation

We are praying for every member of our church family. Each week we invite you to pray for particular members. This week we are praying for:

Gavin Blanton  
Rhonda Johns  
Billy Simmons  
David Thompson



QR code for electronic contributions:

### STAFF

Tonya Benton, Administrative Assistant, limepresbyterian@bellsouth.net  
Rita Harmon, Organist, mteach1@aol.com  
James Hart, Custodian, James.Hart199521@gmail.com  
Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller, Pastor, limestone.presby.pastor@gmail.com  
Vicki Miller, Nursery Attendant, vsrmiller@yahoo.com  
Sharon Thompson, Music Director, Mozart1121@aol.com  
Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

CONNECT WITH US: [limestone-presbyterian.com/](https://www.limestone-presbyterian.com/) 864-489-6079  
 /limestonepresbyterian  @limestone\_pres\_gaffney  
109 SOUTH LIMESTONE STREET • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA



**LIMESTONE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD,  
GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE,  
TOGETHER



David Owain Jones. Untitled. 2011. Oil on canvas.

### The Messiah

Look for the Messiah where you will,  
but you'll find him where you live.  
He will not be separated and kept apart  
from those who cry to him.  
He will be found right in the midst  
of the daily, routine, ordinary stuff of life.  
So wherever you're living  
look for him.  
In the ordinary niches of that living  
look for the holy  
that the holy might be found in you.  
--Ann Weems