

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
Easter

March 31, 2024 10:30 AM

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller
The Lord is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed.

GATHERING

Prelude "Crown Him With Many Crowns" (Bennett) David Thompson

Call to Worship Robin Morris

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** Robin Morris

***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.
And forgive, we pray, the sins we now name silently...

***Assurance of Pardon**
Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Assurance of Pardon Response #238 (Refrain only)**
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem "My Redeemer's Love" (Larson) Chancel Choir
Christ is risen! Celebrate the victory! Christ is risen! And His power has set us free!
Love's redeeming work is done; fought the fight, the battle won!
Christ is risen! Christ is risen! Christ is risen from the dead!
I will sing of my Redeemer and His wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross He suffered from the curse to set me free.
Sing O sing of my Redeemer, with His blood He purchased me,
on the cross He sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.
I will sing of my Redeemer and His heav'nly love for me;
He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God, with Him to be.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with His blood He purchased me,
on the cross He sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.
Christ is risen! Celebrate the victory! Christ is risen! and His pow'r has set us free!
Christ is risen! Christ is risen from the dead!

First Reading 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (Pew Bible NT p.176)

Second Reading Mark 16:1-8 (Pew Bible NT p.54)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller
"The Intermediate Ending and the Long Ending"

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.

***Affirmation of Faith Response #582**
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayer continues concluding with the Lord's Prayer [page 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 "He Lives!" (arr. Hamm) 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 Lanfair" (McDonald) Rita Harmon

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

The flowers in worship today are given for the glory of God.

**Please remember in prayer:**

Robin Morris & Family of Imogene Elliott; The Nice Stranger on I-85; Sara Setzer; Butch & Barbara Jarman; Lynda; Matt; Karen Lydon; Tracy; Barbara Grinter; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Next week's lectionary readings are:

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31.

### Monthly Giving Opportunity

The March giving opportunity is One Great Hour of Sharing. You may mark your check "OGHoS" or put it in the MGO box in the worship space.

### Wednesday Night Program

There will be no Wednesday night supper or program this week.

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY: on Easter Day

**April 5, 1722:** The first-recorded European contact with the island we now know as Easter Island took place on 5 April (Easter Sunday) 1722, when Dutch navigator Jacob Roggeveen visited for a week. He estimated there were 2,000 to 3,000 inhabitants on the island.

**April 11, 1909:** The city of Tel Aviv, Israel, is founded. Tel Aviv is now Israel's second most populated city after Jerusalem.

**March 31, 1918:** Daylight Saving Time takes effect in the US for the first time. It was first introduced in Germany in 1916 during World War I as an energy saving measure. The U.S. followed suit, adopting DST in 1918. Initially implemented as a wartime measure, it was repealed a year later.

## 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:

**Robin Morris**

## MEMBERS OF THE SESSION

| <u>Class of 2024</u> | <u>Class of 2025</u> | <u>Class of 2026</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Teresa Spires        | Nancy McElroy        | Robin Morris         |
| Dean Wyatt           | Mimi McCully         | Barbara Cope         |

## STAFF

Tonya Benton, Administrative Assistant, limepresbyterian@bellsouth.net  
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Sharon Thompson, Music Director, Mozart1121@aol.com  
Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday

9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt – FLC & Lawn  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

### Wednesday, April 3

No Wednesday program

### Sunday, April 7

9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
11:45 AM CE committee meeting  
4:00 PM Yoga

### Upcoming

April 9 Joy Circle  
April 9 Serving dinner to the Foster Care Association  
April 10 Outreach Committee Meeting  
April 11 Grace Circle  
April 14 Finance Committee Meeting  
April 21 Session Meeting  
April 27 Soup Kitchen  
May 3-4 Congregational Retreat at Montreat

## NEXT STEPS

- Pick up a hard copy of the LIMELight
- Mark May 18, 2024 on your calendar. We will host Foothills Presbytery that day!
- Pick up your directory in the Narthex.
- Make your final payment for the Congregational Retreat by April 1.
- Call the church office if you are interested in the trip to Biltmore to see the Chihuly exhibit.
- Turn in names of graduates (high school, college, grad school) to the church office.

QR code for electronic contributions:



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

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



Mikhail Nesterov. **The Empty Tomb.** 1889.

In one sense this unfinished story puts the ball in the reader's court. It puts us to work; we must decide how the story should come out. In a deeper sense, however, Jesus remains in control... No ending proposed by our decisions can contain him, any more than the tomb with its great stone could. Always he goes before us; always he beckons forward to a new appearance in the Galilee of the nations, in the Galilee of our daily lives. We never know where and when we shall see him...

Lamar Williamson in *Mark*  
(*Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*), 286.