

**McKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**The Resurrection of the Lord  
Easter Sunday**

**March 31, 2024**

**WE ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

**PRELUDE "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth/Festive Processional"**

**Millie Kistler, Organist  
Elijah Stanton, Trumpet  
Arr. Linker**

**WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 118)**

(L) Give Thanks to the Lord

**(C) He is good!**

(L) Give thanks to the Lord!

**(C) His steadfast Love endures forever!**

(L) Give thanks to the Lord!

**(C) The Lord is on my side – whom shall I fear!**

(L) Give thanks to the Lord – For HE is Risen!

**(C) He is Risen, indeed – and in Him I have life!**

**(ALL) Give thanks to the Lord!**

**\*HYMN #1**

**"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"**

**No. 123, blue**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Isaiah 53, Romans 7)**

**Gracious God,**

**We gather together this morning around the "rumors" of the resurrection and its promise of abundant, everlasting life. We confess we doubt; we are skeptical.**

**We have allowed trials to discourage us. We have given up hope in the resurrection. Instead of following You, in fear and amazement, we have hunkered down in our tombs. We have settled for death and decay instead of pushing through, in faith, to love and new life.**

**We confess we have turned away from Your promises and have chased the empty, serve-serving promises of the world that relentlessly bombard us.**

**Merciful Lord, hear our prayer ...**

***(pause for silent reflection)***

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (Isaiah 53)**

Hear the Good News. The GLORIOUS news. In love, Christ has taken upon Himself the fullness of our sins, has endured the fullness of their consequences, and has RISEN!!! The stone rolled away, the place of death, decay, and despair EMPTY!

There is NOW, therefore, NO condemnation in those who are in Christ Jesus!

Only LIFE ... Hope filled, Joy filled, Love filled LIFE – awaits us in Christ.

In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

**(ALL) Give thanks to the Lord!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**No. 813, brown**

**Glory be 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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**JOYS**

Leader: "For (joy), Gracious God..."

**All: "we give you thanks"**

**CONCERNS**

Leader: "For (concern), Merciful Lord ..."

**All: "hear our prayer."**

Let's pray together 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Please contact the church by email or phone with your prayer requests during the week.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:**

Please welcome the children & youth to the front of the sanctuary.

**ANTHEM**

**"Lord Praise to Christ Our King"**

**(Chancel Choir)**

**Arr. Summer**

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

**Mark 16: 1-8**

"When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here. Look, there is the place they laid

him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid."

**SERMON**

**"There. Is. Always. Hope."**

**Rev. Michael Stanton**

**THE RESPONSE**

**WE COMMIT TO THE WORK OF GOD**

**OFFERTORY**

**"The Strife is O' ver**

**(Chancel Choir)  
Arr. Monk**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*HYMN #2**

**" The Day of Resurrection"**

**No. 118, blue**

**THE EXIT**

**WE ENGAGE THE WORLD OF GOD**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"**

**Millie Kistler, Organist  
Arr. Wood**

*\*All those who are able, please stand"*



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**March 31, 2024**

**FELLOWSHIP II:**

Please join together for friendship and fellowship after today's service.

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE**, please contact the church office.

**REFRESH:**

Come "Refresh" on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Join in for learning, fellowship and a meal. Please bring your family and friends.

**POPCORN SALE:**

Today is the last day to order your Popcorn.

Your order helps the Mission Committee raise funds to welcome our visitors from Malawi/South Sudan in May.

The popcorn will be distributed at church on May 5.

**EYEGASSES, HEARING AIDS:**

Lions Club of White Oak is collecting old eyeglasses, hearing aids, and used, clean, non-labeled prescription bottles. If you would like to dispose of any of these items, please give them to Carol Lasch or drop them off at the church office.

**MCKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Pastor-Rev. Michael Stanton**

**Director of Music-Edward R. Moore**

**Organists- Millie Kistler, Candice Holsinger, & Faye D'Ippolito**

**Office/Financial Assistant- Robin Enright**

**Maintenance Manager -Brock Cochran**

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