



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

EASTER SUNRISE

March 31, 2024

6:30 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

But since the Savior's raising the body, no longer is death fearsome, but all believers in Christ tread on it as nothing, and would rather choose to die than deny their faith in Christ. For they really know that when they die they are not destroyed, but both live and become incorruptible through the resurrection.

—Athanasius

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Easter Medley

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The Lord lives,

All: And blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.

Pastor: Yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me; you delivered me.

All: For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name.

*†OPENING HYMN 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
EASTER HYMN

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!

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | 1 Peter 1:3–9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION

Gage Arnold

ANTHEM

Here is Love

Robert Lowry | Joseph M. Martin

Here is love, vast as the ocean, lovingkindness, as the flood, when the Prince of Love, our ransom, shed for us his precious blood. Who his love will not remember? Who can cease to sing his praise? He can never be forgotten through our heav'n's eternal days. On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened, deep and wide. Through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide. Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above, and God's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love. Here is love, vast as the ocean. Here is love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. *Refrain***

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain***

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Allegro from Gothique Suite
Leon Boellman

** Those who are able, please stand.*

† Latecomers may be seated.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*

Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

Kevin Salter – *Tenor*

MUSIC NOTES: *Here is Love* – Music by Robert Lowry, Text by William Rees (1802-1883) arranged by Joseph M. Martin (from The Celtic Choir, © 2008 by Malcolm Music, a division of Shawnee Press, Inc.) OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

COVER IMAGE: Lucas Cranach the Elder, *Pacific with Resurrection*, German, Kronach 1472–1553 Weimar, Woodcut, 3 3/8 × 3 1/4 in., The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/624981>

EASTER BREAKFAST

7:00–10:45 a.m. | *Courtenay Hall*

All are welcome to enjoy the Easter Breakfast following the service.
Please enter the Narthex and use stairwells to enter Courtenay Hall.

LOOKING AHEAD

FPC Offices Closed | Monday, April 1 — The church offices will be closed for the Easter holiday.

Inquirer's Class | Saturday, April 6 | 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. — If you are interested in membership or gaining a deeper understanding of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, we invite you to attend our Inquirers Class. Lunch and childcare are provided; registration requested. For more information, contact Julia Wilk (jwilk@fpcnashville.org or 615-473-8742).

History, Politics, and Religion | Tuesday, April 9 (new date) | 6:00 p.m. | Gathering Place

Kirkin' o' th' Tartan & Festival | Sunday, May 19 (new date)

Pickleball | Wednesdays through May | 5:00–8:00 p.m. Enrichment Center

VBS Registration Open! | Evenings, June 24–27 — Join us for Run the Race VBS this summer! Children age 4 through rising 4th graders will team up to explore what it means to trust and obey Jesus through Bible stories, skits, music, crafts, and games. This year we will be talking about “running the race” by looking to Jesus! Please contact Mallory Hammond (mhammond@fpcnashville.org) with any questions.