



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
*April 11, 2021*



THE INCREDULITY OF ST THOMAS  
*Peter Paul Rubens*

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For Christ, for His kingdom, and for the common good. Since 1814.

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

Q. 45: What benefit do we receive from “the resurrection” of Christ?

A. 45: First, by his resurrection he has overcome death that he might make us share in the righteousness which he has obtained for us through his death. Second, we too are now raised by his power to a new life. Third, the resurrection of Christ is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

– *Heidelberg Catechism*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Variations on *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!*  
Jeanne Demessieux

\*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

**All: Hallelujah!**

Pastor: This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

**All: Hallelujah!**

Pastor: This is the good news—once we were no people; now we are God’s people.

**All: Hallelujah!**

Pastor: Christ is risen from the dead.

**All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\*†OPENING HYMN

*All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!*  
CORONATION

**All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!  
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!**

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Ellie Billington (8:30)  
Mary Earthman (11:00)

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FIRST LESSON

1 John 1:1–2:2

<sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us — <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. <sup>2</sup> My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Joshua Rodriguez (8:30)  
The Rev. Sarah Bird Kneff (11:00)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess to you that we have sinned. We confess the sins that no one knows and the sins that everyone knows. We confess the sins that are a burden to us and the sins that do not bother us because we have grown used to them. We confess our sins as a church. We have not loved one another as Christ loved us. We have not forgiven one another as we have been forgiven. We have not given ourselves in love and service for the world as Christ gave himself for us. Father, forgive us. Send the Holy Spirit to us, that he may give us power to live as, by your mercy, you have called us to live. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, join me in echoing the good news:

**All: This is love: not that we loved God but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Pastor: Come, embrace this good news with all of your hearts: in Jesus Christ there is forgiveness – for all who call upon him!

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*Christ Is Alive!*  
TRURO

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

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\*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

John 20:19–31

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

<sup>22</sup> And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." <sup>26</sup> Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**Life After Death**

Dr. Ryan Moore

*"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.'"*  
– John 20:21

OFFERTORY

*The Lord is Risen Indeed*  
William Billings

The Lord is risen indeed, Hallelujah! Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first-fruits of them that slept. Hallelujah! And did he rise? Hear, O ye nations, hear it, O ye dead. He rose, he rose! He burst the bars of death and triumphed o'er the grave! Then I rose! Then first humanity triumphant passed the crystal ports of light and seized eternal youth. Man all immortal, hail; heaven, all lavish of strange gifts to man, thine all the glory, man's the boundless bliss!

*As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by leaving your gift in the offering basket, texting "GIVE" to (707) 475-3005, or donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).*

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## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

### ANTHEM

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

BEACH SPRING

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside. Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Stuart Gordon (8:30)

The Rev. Adam DeVries (11:00)

**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

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.**

**Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.**

**Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.**

**Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

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**Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*The congregation will be seated until after the choral response.*

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

*A Blessing*  
James Chepponis

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

**\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

Finale on *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!*  
Jeanne Demessieux

*\* Those who are able, please stand.  
† Latecomers may be seated.*

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**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Marion Kirkpatrick and Nate Smith and in memory of Doris Porterfield.

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Adam DeVries, MDiv – *Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families*  
Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Executive Pastor*  
Sarah Bird Kneff, MDiv – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Engagement*  
Joshua Rodriguez, MDiv – *Associate Pastor for Young Adult Ministry*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*  
Brianna Meler and Derek Meler – *Soloists*

*Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good.  
We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church.  
If you do not have a church home, we'd love to welcome you!*

**Introducing the FPC Babies of 2020** — The limitations of 2020's unprecedented lockdown meant that many of our new babies have not been introduced to their church family. Today we will rejoice together over these new lives as a full FPC family. During today's 4:30 p.m. Porch service, Pastor Ryan will call forward all the families who welcomed or baptized babies in 2020. The families will come forward with their babies, be introduced, and receive a special blessing. This will be a wonderful opportunity for pictures, singing a song of praise, and rejoicing as our church family welcomes new lives into the fold!

**Spring Worship on the Porch** — **Sundays** | 4:30 p.m. | Front Porch

Worship on the Porch has returned and will continue through May. Everyone is invited for a time of worship and fellowship with their church family outside in front of the sanctuary. Bring your lawn chair or blanket. When weather is inclement, the service will be canceled. Next week, April 18, the 6th grade Confirmands will lead worship at this service.



### THE HYMNS THAT SHAPE US

Special Guest Dr. Robert J. Morgan, local pastor and author



**Hymns that Shape Us: Guest Lecture** — **Wednesday, April 14** | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary and Livestream  
Join us as we conclude our spring Communities of Belonging series on *The Hymns That Shape Us*. Dr. Robert J. Morgan, a local pastor and prolific writer, will lead us in thinking about the hymns we sing on Sunday mornings. Register at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org) to attend in-person. Limited seating. Masks and social distancing required. This event will also be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook.

**ME Moms** — ME Moms is a group that invites all mothers to come together to enjoy faithful fellowship and encouragement. The "ME" stands for Mary and Elizabeth, two women who provide a beautiful Biblical example of the life-giving relationships that can exist among mothers of different ages. While most of the ME Mom participants have young children, we always welcome mothers, aunts, and women of any life stage to join us for the wisdom and love they offer. Both mothers and children are invited to join the daytime events for play and connection. The nighttime ME Mom events are for adults only to give moms a much-deserved respite! Contact Jessie Yancey at [jyancey@fpcnashville.org](mailto:jyancey@fpcnashville.org) for the Mom's Night address or for more information.

**Thursday, April 15 & 22** | 11:30 a.m. | Front Lawn

**Thursday, May 6** | 7:30 p.m. | Home of Rachel Davis

**Oak Hill Day Camp Returns** — We are glad to be back this summer with six weeks of OHDC programming for children age 4 through 5th grade. There will be a limited number of campers each week and COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place to ensure a fantastic summer playing together on our church campus. Each weekly session is from 8:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. Cost is \$275 per session. Optional aftercare, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., is an additional \$75. Find more information and registration at [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](http://linktr.ee/fpcnashville).

#### Sessions:

June 7-11 | June 14-18 | June 21-25 | July 12-16 | July 19-23 | July 26-30

#### LOOKING AHEAD

**April 18** | Confirmands Lead Worship | 4:30 p.m. | Front Porch

**April 25** | Habitat Build Day

**May 2** | Youth Sunday

**May 11** | Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary

**May 30** | Kirkin Sunday | Special Guest Speaker

*For more information on events and mission opportunities, visit [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org) or sign up for our weekly Parish News email by emailing [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).*

## PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS

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Ann Alexander	Burton Dietz	Annie Evelyn Hollins	Mary Evelyn Reese
Fifi Anderson	Michael DiTraglia	Tim Ishii	Trey Russell
Myrtle Ann Archer	Kathryn Downs	Bob Jackson	Mike Shampain
George Armistead	Don Fisher	Bill Kirby	Brett Simpson
Mary Baker	Mary Francis	Jeff Koch	Trish Simpson
Mary Helen Bailey	Lewis Frost	Kaye Knox	Eric Skinner
Kristin Batten	Jim & Roxie Gibson	Catherine Loflin	Lucas Spickard
Martha Bartles	Lynn Hardison	Emily Love	Ed Stone
Linda Berry	Willie Hardison	Bracey Mayo	David Thomas
Barbara Boone	Harry Hassall	Liz McConnell and family	Peter van Lingen
Lauren Brinkley	Ann Hayes	Tom McDonald	Janice and Bud Wendell
Merry Lynn Cato	Mary Howard Hayes	Sherri Middendorf	Lynda Wimberly
Tim Coomer and family	Phyllis Heard	Maureen Milam	Tom Wright
Andrea Cooper	Ashley Higgins	Mike O'Brien	Nahed Zehr
Helen Dale	Dorothy Holland	Shelby Eaker Quinley and family	
Lipscomb Davis	Helen Holland		
Martha Davis	Preston Holland		

Please pray for the leaders of our nation and world and community and for their wise and compassionate decisions; for those most vulnerable to illness; for those without homes and no safe place to go; for those whose economic livelihood is in jeopardy; for those without childcare for their children while they work; for doctors and nurses and all those caring for the sick; for medical researchers seeking treatment and means of prevention of COVID-19 and its complications. Please pray for our city, state and nation, for the healing of deep wounds and for God's spirit of peace, justice, mercy, mutual respect and love to rest upon and between all people.

### HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

Prayer request cards can be found in the pew racks and can be dropped in the Offering Baskets or the Prayer Request Boxes located in the narthex and at the Hospitality Center. Church officers meet weekly to lift up prayer requests to God.

### INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. We are delighted you have chosen to join us in worship. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card (found in the pew racks) to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the Offering Basket located in the Narthex.

The Mother and Infant  
Quiet Room is located in the  
Nursery Wing.

Audio Bluetooth Capabilities – Use the WaveCAST  
app, connect your personal device and headphones.  
WiFi: FPC Guest | Password: GreenRock-81  
select “First Pres Sanctuary”

Text “GIVE” to (707) 475-3005,  
or donate online  
at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).

### SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE

