

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service for the Second Sunday of Easter**  
April 7, 2024

**Pre-Service Music:** *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* - Helen Lemmel

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *In Heavenly Love Abiding* - Penny Rodriguez

**Introit #398:** *How Very Good and Pleasant* Psalm 133 Chancel Choir

**Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day**

How good it is for us to come together as kindred spirits.

**Hallelujah! Our doubts are answered, and we feel the presence of Christ.**

The risen Christ speaks to us and gives us peace.

**Hallelujah! Let our worship be the sign of our belief.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**Beloved Jesus, Living God, you enter our hearts, even when we are filled with disbelief. You feel our sadness and hurt as we struggle to make sense of our world. You express your love for us by offering yourself, and we are amazed. You ease our doubt, and we are astonished. We give you thanks, saying, “My Lord, my God!” Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #238:** *Thine is the Glory* (stand)

**Call to Confession**

With contrite hearts, we humbly ask Jesus to hear our prayer of confession, praying together,

**Prayer of Confession**

**Saving God, we are in awe of the power of resurrection, and we give you glory with our hallelujahs, but we carry lingering doubts about your saving power in our lives. We ask why you do not answer our prayers quickly enough. We demand signs to prove the reality of your promises. Sometimes we find ourselves wondering when you will show up to ease our pain. We pray now that you will help us in our impatience and unbelief. Forgive us and free us to recognize your presence. Amen.**

**Declaration of Pardon**

The promise of Christ is sure, even in our moments of doubt. He shows up and says,

**“Peace be with you.”**

Hold on to this peace,

**for in it is the loving forgiveness of our doubts.**

May the blessing pour from our lips when we remember this peace,  
and may we exclaim,

**“My Lord and my God!”**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

### **Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Glory to God #582:**      *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Special Music:**              *How Beautiful*                      Mary Kwantes

**Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Worship leader will lead the prayers.*

God of grace.    **Hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of the Good News. *(brief silence)*

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love.

God of grace.    **Hear our prayer.**

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Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love, through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

### **Dedication of Tithes and Offerings**

(please stand)

**Offering #710:**              *We are an Offering*

### **Prayer of Dedication and Illumination:**

**Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus. As we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.**



remembrance of me.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us pray:

**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**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.  
Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Come to me and never be hungry;  
believe in me and never thirst.  
The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.** *(take the communion)*

### **Prayer After Communion**

**Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of Life. Amen**

**Sending Hymn #747:** *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*

**Benediction:**

(remain standing)

Beloved, we are God's own people, fed at the Savior's holy table, and renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

**Postlude:** *Send the Light* - Charles H. Gabriel

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by the Chancel Choir, Mary Kwantes, and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Maudanne Pursley and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.*

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