

**“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”**

**John 23:29b**



**Grace Presbyterian Church**

**Fort Wayne, IN**

**April 7, 2024**

**The Second Sunday of Easter**

**Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook**

## Sunday Service – April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

How can we pray for you? Let us know at [prayerrequests@gpcfww.org](mailto:prayerrequests@gpcfww.org) or in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!

We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in **\*BOLD\*** with us from your homes!  
10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts

10:30 – Live Prelude Starts      *Amazing Love by Kendrick*

### Welcome

### Call to Worship –

Come and see the works of God,  
**God's awesome deeds among us.**

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ:

**"Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"**

In the name of Christ,  
**we accept the invitation to discipleship.**

In the name of Christ,  
**we come to worship and praise God.**

Come, let us worship together  
**and share our witness of God's living presence in the world.**

### Opening Hymn #254 “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

### Call to Confession –

In our brokenness, we have refused the refuge of God's love. Let us confess the sin that prevents us from accepting God's love and living as God's people. Let us pray together...

### Prayer of Confession –

**God of empty tombs and empty people: when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us voice. When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with your joy.**

*Time for silent confession*

### Assurance of Pardon –

Jesus says, I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believe in me will never die. Anyone who is in

Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Amen.**

## Song of Assurance #581 “Gloria Patri”

### Passing the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you!**

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

### Children’s Message

### Time for Music & Meditation

### Prayer for Illumination —

Let us Pray: O God,  
you raised up Jesus Christ  
as your faithful witness and the first-born of the dead.  
By your Holy Spirit, help us to witness to him  
so that those who have not yet seen  
may come to believe in him  
who is, and was, and is to come. **Amen.**

### Scripture Reading: Epistle Reading — 1 John 1:1-7 p.1898

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.

Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness

5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 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, purifies us from all sin.

## Choir Anthem

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading — John 20:19-31

p.1686

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Jesus Appears to Thomas

24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

The Purpose of John’s Gospel

30 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Hymn of Response #451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"****Invitation to the Lord's Table****Prayer of Thanksgiving with 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.

**Breaking of the Bread****Communion****Prayer After Communion**

As we have been fed at this table, may we be bread for the world  
As we have been set free, may we free the imprisoned,  
As we have received, let us give.  
As we have heard, let us proclaim  
And may your great blessing that we have received from Creator, Son and Spirit go  
with us always. Amen.

**Call to Offering**

Jesus said, "I came so that you may have life, and have it more abundantly." May God's presence fill us. May we give from our abundance, from the first fruits of our lives, so that others may be fed. We offer our gifts, our tithes and ourselves to the glory of God.

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

### Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good, we thank you for your love in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world, who died rejected on the cross, and rose triumphant from the dead. Because he lives, we live to praise you, our God forever. Gracious God, who called us from death to life, we give ourselves to you. Receive these gifts, and our lives, as an offering of praise, dedicated to your service in the name of Christ.

**Amen**

### Announcements

Closing Hymn #240 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

### Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

*Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him* by Wilcox

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Joint Worship - April 14<sup>th</sup> - @ United Faith:** Next week we will be worshipping together with our friends at United Faith. The service starts at 10:30 AM at 1616 W Main Street.

**Boy Scouts Pies:** If you ordered pies for their fundraiser they are in the Grace kitchen freezer. There is a list with names and their orders with the pies.

**Let’s Play—Our Taxes Are Done:** Everyone is invited for an afternoon of fellowship and games. We’ll be meeting here at Grace at 2:00 PM. People are encouraged to bring their favorite games and a snack to share.

**Save the Date - Baseball:** Grace and friends are scheduling another Tin Caps outing. The calendar date is May 19<sup>th</sup> and the cost is \$29. There is a sign up for the game in the narthex. More information will be shared as the plans come together.

**Grace & the Neighborhood Garage Sale:** Grace will be participating with the North Highlands garage sale day. If you have items to donate we will be collecting them in our library. Please no clothes. Proceeds from the donated items will go towards

sprucing up the lower level women's restroom. Members and friends can reserve a table to join in the sale for a \$10 donation. More information will be posted as we approach the June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> sale.

**New Blood for the Tech Volunteers:** There has been a request for additional volunteers to help with video and sound during our services. It's not difficult or scary ~ and you will receive training. If you can help, please talk to one of our volunteers.

### Birthdays

Dale Lehman - April 8

Lilly MacGregor - April 15

### ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

*To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.*

#### **Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting**

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

#### **Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting**

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on "Join" and enter this information:

***Meeting ID:*** 9712063468      ***Password:*** 030414

#### **Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)**

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

***Phone Number:*** (301) 715-8592 ***Meeting ID:*** 9712063468      ***Password:*** 030414

# 254 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone  
 2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the  
 3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -

out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
 glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which  
 deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.  
 made it plain their Lord in - deed was risen a - gain.  
 us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide.

These Eastertide stanzas are derived from a longer Latin text that was one of the earliest hymns written especially for a season of the church year. They are set here to a tune with Christmas associations, a means of linking the two great festivals of the Christian year.

TEXT: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1852, alt.  
 MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

PUER NŌBIS NASCITUR  
 LM  
 (alternate harmonization, 67)



# Glory Be to the Father 581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

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# Open My Eyes, That I May See 451

1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.  
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou send-est clear.  
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.

Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un-clasp and  
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev-ery-thing false will  
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren

set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy

will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O-pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

TEXT and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES  
 8.8.9.8.8.8.4

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# 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

## Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise \*him, all creatures

here below; praise \*him above, ye heavenly host; praise

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

\*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

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# 240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

*Refrain* E C#m F#m B

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

*Fine*

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B E

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B

- 1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

E C#m F#m B

*to Refrain*

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.