

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

*Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation*

## Order of Worship

2 May 2021

5th Sunday of Easter

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### Prayer of Preparation

*When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,  
what is man that you care for him?"  
And yet you do care for me, O Lord.  
You have awakened me to this new day.  
You have called me to worship in this sacred place.  
Calm my fears and concerns, dear God,  
and allow me to sense the love you have for me this day.  
Amen.*

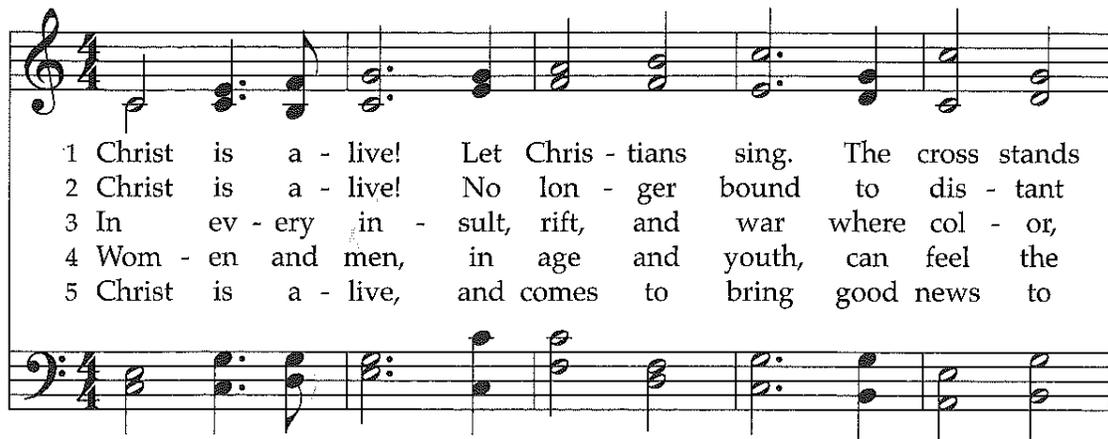
### Welcome

### Chiming of the Trinity

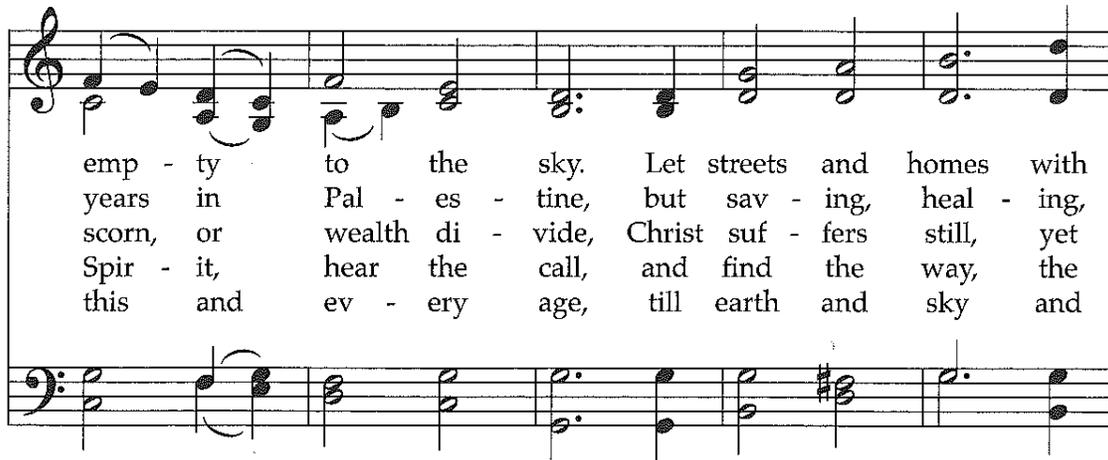
### Call to Worship

I will exalt you, O my God the King;  
I will praise your name for ever and ever.  
**Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom.**  
One generation will commend your works to another;  
they will tell of your mighty acts.  
**They will celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.**  
**Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.**  
**Let us worship God!**

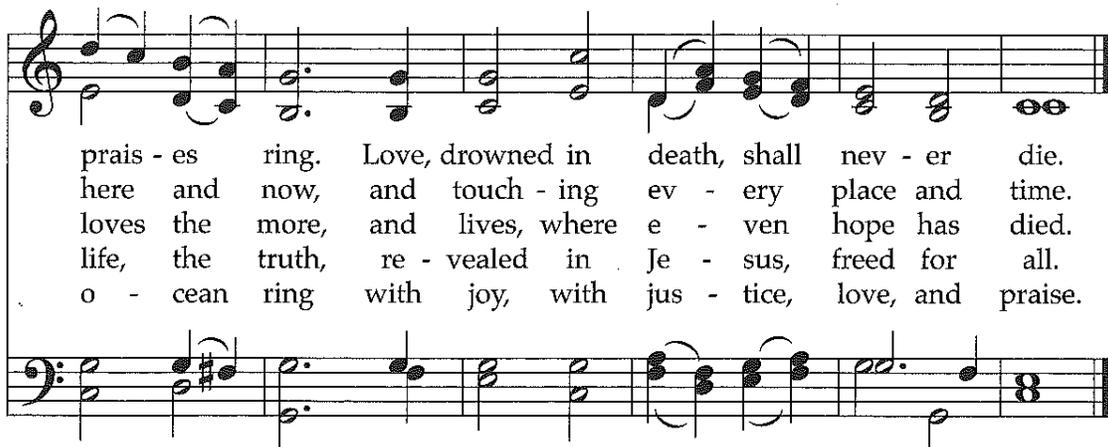
*from Psalm 145*



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

**Litany of Affirmation**

from 1 John 4

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God,  
 and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

**The love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent Jesus into the world.**

God loved us and sent Jesus to be the atonement for our sins.

**If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another,  
 God abides in us and God's love is perfected in us. Amen.**

## Summary of the Law

**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”**  
**Matthew 22:37-39**

## Prayer for Illumination

### Lesson

John 15:1-8

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Elder Steve Mabie

### Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of 1967

**The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of mankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to men, moves them to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which men know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no man has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.**

### Anthem

*I Am the Vine*

Iona Community/John Bell

### Minute for Mission

Legacy Giving Sunday

Jay Rishel

### Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

### Benediction

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Betsy Conzelman, Margaret Cooper, Beth Foley, Bill Harris, Mildred Moore Lopez, Susan Mabie, Pat K. Rowlett, Carol Taylor, David Taylor

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