

EASTER SUNRISE

March 31, 2024 • 7:00 AM



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

1432 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
firstpresbyterian.org



AN EASTER WELCOME

We welcome members and visitors to this celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we worship with joy and thanksgiving, may we sense the presence of the risen Christ and the transformational power of the Holy Spirit. If you are visiting with us, we hope you will return again soon and find in this church family a spiritual home and refuge. Our good news and proclamation today and always is: Jesus Christ is risen and he is Lord!

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Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

OPENING PRAYER

God with us, this morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us; so, we pray,

Bring new life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit, where we are prisoners of ourselves. Amen.

WORDS & SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:1, 30-2:2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. . . . And it was so.

God saw all that they had made, and it was very good.

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

By the seventh day God had finished the work

God had been doing;

so on the seventh day God rested from all their work.”

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

**1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

Refrain:

**Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:
(Refrain)**

**5. For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:
(Refrain)**

WORDS & SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:2-6

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

HYMN

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

ERMUNTRE DICH

**Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,
and usher in the morning.
You shepherds, shudder not with fright,
but hear the angel's warning.
This child, now weak in infancy,
our confidence and joy shall be,
the power of Satan breaking,
our peace eternal making.**

WORDS & SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:6-8

Consider the heart of Christ Jesus:
“Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be grasped,
rather, Jesus made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human being,
he humbled himself and became obedient to death—
even death on a cross!”

HYMN

Why Has God Forsaken Me?

SHIMPI

**“Why has God forsaken me?”
cried our Savior from the cross
as he shared the loneliness
of our deepest grief and loss.**

**As his life expired, our Lord
placed himself within God’s care:
at our dying, Lord, may we
trust the love which conquers fear.**

WORDS & SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:24, 32; 1 Peter 1:3

God raised Jesus from the dead,
freeing him from the agony of death,
because it was impossible for death
to keep its hold on him.
God has raised this Jesus to life,
and we are all witnesses of the fact.

Praise be to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In God’s great mercy God
has given us new birth
into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

- | | |
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| <p>1. Jesus Christ is risen today,
Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day,
Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross,
Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss.
Alleluia!</p> <p>2. 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!</p> | <p>3. 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!</p> <p>4. 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!</p> |
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CLOSING LITANY

Today and tomorrow,
Today and tomorrow,

I am with you always,
When we try to do your will,

I am with you always,
When we go
Where we do not know,

I am with you always,
When we meet
One we do not recognize,

I am with you always,
Where faith ends
And doubt begins,

I am with you always.
And should we forget you...

I am with you always.
Today and tomorrow,
Today and tomorrow,
You are with us always
To the end of the world. Amen.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY



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WELCOME

Welcome to First. We Are Glad You Are Here!

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship. If you are looking for a church to grow in your faith, you are welcome here at First Pres! We look forward to personally meeting you. **PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE** by signing the online Friendship Pad by using the QR code.



PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, pastors will be available after the service.

WAYS TO GIVE

Your gift allows us to carry out our mission as an inclusive and diverse faith community.

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LEADING IN WORSHIP

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MUSICIANS

name