

EASTER SUNDAY
April 4, 2021



Easter
He Qi



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Please know that, in recording all the parts of this liturgy — spoken, sung and played — we have carefully observed responsible norms of social distancing.

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold**. It is not yet safe to sing together as a congregation. (The choral ensemble sings with special singers' masks.) As you listen to the hymns and responses, we encourage you to read along and reflect on the text.

Today is Easter Sunday, the center of the Christian year. On this day we joyfully proclaim the good news at the very heart of the gospel: that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. We celebrate the miracle of Jesus' resurrection, which frees us to serve the God of life.

The liturgical color of Easter is white, and sometimes gold. It represents joy and purity, and is also used for the season of Christmas, All Saints' Sunday, and Sundays directly reflecting the life of Jesus, such as Baptism of the Lord and Epiphany. We are grateful to Beth Taylor of Schenectady, New York, for creating and making Easter paraments for the Lectern, Pulpit, and Communion Table.
www.quiltedthread.com

GATHERING

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Saraband (For the morning of Easter)
Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals
Resounding Joy

Sanctus Ringers

Herbert Howells
Sigfrid Karg-Elert
Kevin McChesney

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We had been so sure that all was over and done –

**All: “Blessed are those who mourn,” he said;
“they shall be comforted!”**

One: But the brooding shadows, the ache of defeat, the long night of grief?

**All: “The Light shines in the darkness,” he said;
“and the darkness has not overcome it!”**

One: Fear and doubt have been our constant companions.

**All: “Peace I give to you – not as the world gives,” he said;
My peace I leave with you!”**

One: How shall we find a way through the valley of the shadow?

All: “I am the way, the truth, the Light!” he said.

One: We had been so alone in the face of danger and death.

All: “Behold, I am with you always,” he said – “even to the end of time!”

One: What has happened? What is the truth of this new day?

All: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

* HYMN 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

This hymn is found on the preceding page of this bulletin. As you listen to the hymn, we encourage you to read along and reflect on the text.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**In a world like this world, O God,
give us hearts to receive and trust the glad tidings
that death is not the final word.**

**In a time like this time, O God,
grant us courage to welcome the risen Christ
in healing what is unwell in our hearts,
to join him in mending what is broken in the world around us.
Among people like these people, O God,
teach us the grace of forgiveness, the practice of patience,
the arts of compassion.**

**In a church like this church, O God,
set us free us from our timidity and self-doubt
to offer ourselves as instruments of Your peace.**

**In these moments of prayer, O God,
open our minds, stir our consciences,
soften our hearts, strengthen our resolve –
For we confess our need for You
and long for Your healing, reconciling touch –**

After his resurrection, when Jesus found the disciples in hiding and afraid, he greeted them with “Peace be with you.” In the early church the exchange of the peace was a sign of membership in the new community that is the body of Christ. It is now a sign of our reconciliation with each other and with God, and is reflective of our commitment to peacemaking in the world.

For the younger ones among us: When Mary Magdalene found Jesus’ empty tomb on Easter morning, she thought someone had taken his body. Even when the risen Jesus appeared and asked her whom she was looking for, she was too upset to recognize him. Only when he called her name did she realize that it was he. Does it make you feel good when you feel good when grownups and other kids know your name? Part of the message of Easter is that Jesus loves each of us and cares for us by name.

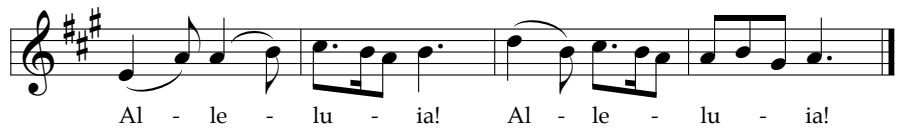
SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

As you listen to the response, we encourage you to read along and reflect on the text.



This is Hymn 587, Alleluia (CELTIC ALLELUIA).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Mark 16:1–8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 2:1–13

The grass withers, the flower fades;

the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

This Mind Among You

RESPONDING AND SEALING

ANTHEM

Easter Anthem

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?
Did He rise? Hear it, ye nations! Hear it, O ye dead!
He rose, He burst the bars of death and triumphed o'er the grave.
Then I rose, the first humanity triumphant passed the crystal ports of light,
And seized eternal youth. Humanity immortal hail.
Heaven all lavish of strange gifts to us, Thine's all the glory, ours the boundless bliss.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Hallelujah from Mount of Olives Ludwig van Beethoven

Hallelujah unto God's almighty Son.
Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs,
In holy songs of joy.
We proclaim God's grace and glory,
Praise the Lord in holy songs of joy.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service. As you consider making your offering, remember that the church's regular expenses continue in these difficult times. And the community around us needs your financial support: your faithful giving is like the breath of life to mission programs we love, neighbors in need, members who are hurting. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Ways to give: online on the First Pres homepage ... via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use our Give+ app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



During his ministry, Jesus shared meals as a sign of community and acceptance. As we gather for communion, know that you are welcome in this community and accepted at Christ's table.

"As this broken bread scattered on the mountains was gathered and became one, so too, may your Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom." – *The Didache*, one of the earliest Christian texts.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

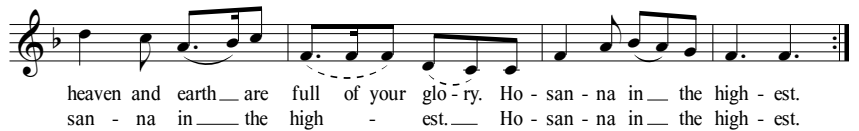
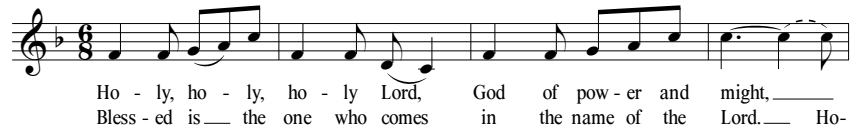
All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Music
Alleluia!

Alleluia Incantation

Andrew Miller

Prayer after Communion

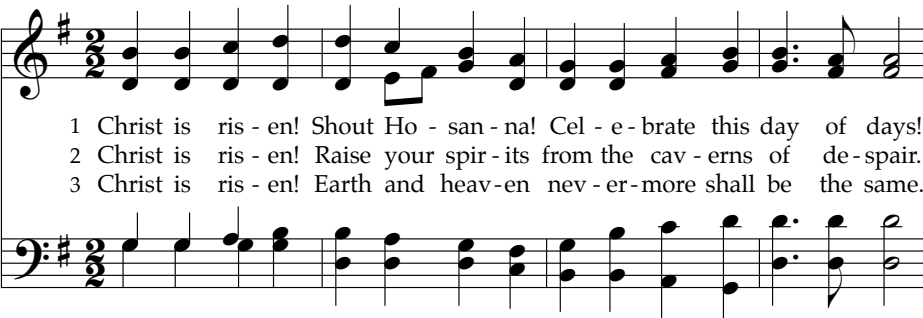
SENDING

* HYMN 248

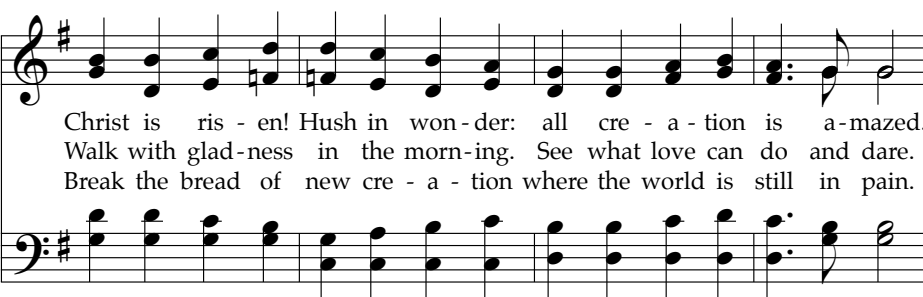
Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

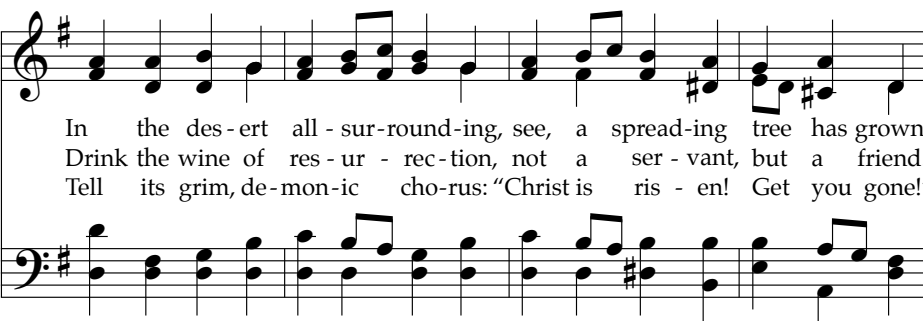
As you listen to the hymn, we encourage you to read along and reflect on the text.



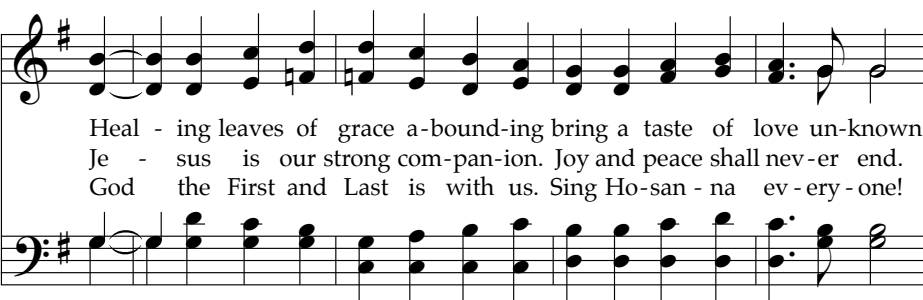
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Gottfried August Homilius

Please sign our virtual Friendship Pad.

If you are worshipping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, either click below to let us know that you joined us for worship today or sign the pad on our website at <https://bit.ly/2Rlig2l>

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Easter. Used with permission of the artist.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This festival day still finds our congregation widely scattered. Out of concern for others, and for the sake of our own physical health, many of us are physically apart – but the news of this day lands like lightning, and unites us spiritually as one joyous and hopeful family of faith! Welcome to First Pres, wherever and whoever you are, and however you

may be participating in this service! Know that, among us, it is abundantly true that Christ is risen indeed! The joyful task before us today is stretching the imagination of our hearts to believe that, even in this world and at this time, in Jesus Christ, life triumphs over death! Christ is risen indeed!

Christ Is Risen!
Christ Is Risen Indeed!



Leaders of Worship: Welcome – Evans McGowan; Liturgists – Jay Sanderford and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Reader – Quinn Swenson; Children's Message – Andrew Frazier and Beca Torres-Davenport; Preacher – Rick Spalding; Vocalists – Lorna Hildebrandt, Imani Mchunu, Leslie Smith, Heidi Hess-Willis, Catherine Moore, David Magumba, Tyrese Byrd, Joseph Sevig, Benton DeGroot, Elijah Emmons, and Brent Ivey; Organist – Paul Haebig; Alex Wilson and Jon Fontan – Trumpets; Lorenzo Robb – Horn; Martha Farmer – Trombone; Christopher Hall – Tuba; Anna Mueller – Timpani; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Videographer – Bill Hall; Sound technician – Rol Kibler; Ushers – Len Rezmierski, Spaulding Clark, Jim Cameron, Sheila Bilby, and Keith Bilby

Today is Communion Sunday. As we come to the Lord's Table to be fed and nurtured in our faith, we also come to feed others and lend support to those in need. Financial contributions and food donations throughout the month of April will be overseen by our Local Missions Team. Financial contributions and food donations will be directed to Community Action Network (C.A.N.)

One Great Hour of Sharing 2021 Offering is collected today. Throughout the Lenten season Christian congregations connect by participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering. We go through our lives every day dimly aware of the amount of need in our world. We fear that if we were to look directly at it, it would overwhelm us. What One Great Hour of Sharing does is offer a chance to look, together, beyond congregation and beyond denomination, and to take action. Our gifts work to empower, and provide water, and supply food and give relief from natural disasters. They support thoughtful interventions that build strong community. This IS church and these gifts ARE at work. Like God's love, what brings hope is knowing that we are part of something big trying to help with the biggest needs in our world. We are truly all in this together. You may give by text, check or cash, or give online.

Join Rev. Rogers for a virtual Coffee Hour Sunday immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

Our conversation prompt: What is a special memory that you have of Easter at First Pres or somewhere else very dear to you? Enter Coffee Hour by clicking <https://firstpresbyterian.org/event/virtual-coffee-hour>.



Easter flowers are given in memory of:

Emily Ann Andrea
John Andrea
Vange Andrea
Mary Roberts Arnsdorf
Marty Austin
William E. Austin, Sr.
Joan C. Banfield
Ralph W. Banfield
Ryne C. Banfield
Dorothy Barker
Edsel Barker
Don Bell
Maxine Bell
Charlene Bentley
Kelly Binkley
Kevin Binkley
Janice Boswell
George R. Brewer
Rev. Charles Brewer
Mary Brewer
Alexander B. Buchanan
Beverly B. Buchanan
Sue Chandler
Dorene Christensen
David Clyde
Patricia Clyde
Carol Coen
Dorothy Colvin
Helen Corey
Bettie Cox
Jim Cox
Bernice J. Crandall
Earl Crandall
Rial Y. Crandall
Marti Dalley
Phil Dalley
Nancy Deromedi
Peter M. Dobson
William T. Dobson
Melvin Donally
Rebecca Donally
Thelma H. Duffell
Marie Dumery
Bernard Dunn
Frances I. Earl

Elliott Faulk
Helen Faulk
Frederic Filion
Suzanne Filion
Joseph R. Fletcher
Mae M. Fletcher
Robert W. Fletcher
Francis Fox
Ursula France
Edmund Galant
Marjorie Galant
John Gannon
Wendy S. Garner
Jean-Louis Gavin
Doris Gregory
Stanley Gregory
Gregory Grieco
John T. Hammond
Karen Hammond-Nash
Griffith Herold
Mary Herold
Arthur J. Himbeault
Madeleine D. Himbeault
D. Paul Horan
Delia S. Hunter
Jewel F. Hunter
John C. Hunter
Laurin R. Hunter
Stephen A. Hunter
John C. Hunter, Jr.
David Husted
Eleanore Jackson
Fran Johnson
Gene Johnson
Johnnie Johnson
Louis Jolliet
Gertrude Keegan
Robert Keegan
Donald Kerr
June Kerr
Graydon Krapohl
David Krehbiel
Martha Krehbiel
Robert Larson
Mary Layher
Sue Leong
Kuang-Huei Lin
Jennie Morgan Lombard
Bob Lyons
Marge Lyons
Cheryl MacKrell
Anne Marshall
Helen Martz
Mike McCarthy
Paul McCracken
Ruth McCracken
Ellen Jane McMackin
Dean Millard

Dolly Millard
Dick Miller
King Miller
Peg Molin
Chet Nagle
Ruth Nagle
Elizabeth Najpaver
Joseph Najpaver
Boyd Nixon
Grace Nixon
Leon Ostrander
Louise Ostrander
Clare M. Palmer
Harry H. Palmer
Oscar Pan
Viola M. Pan
Clayton Paquette
Mary Paquette
Arthur Parker Jr.
Helen Parker
Arthur Parker Sr.
Janetta Parker
Lynn Parker
Jeane Perrett
William Perrett
Zachary E. Perry
Philip Pierson
Dorothy Platte
Richard Platte Sr.
Jerry Prescott
Herman Primas
Margaret Primas
Harold Rex
Henry Rezmierski
Olga Rezmierski
Chris P. Ripmaster
Hillary D. Ripmaster
John Smaltz
Zona Smaltz
Norman Smith
Bob Snyder
Richard Snyder
Jean Stem
Russell Stem
Janice Stephens
Daryl Stone
Nan Crandall Stone
Donald V. Streu
Gernith T. Streu
Adeline Tarter
Nick Tarter
Addie Taylor
Ernestine C. Taylor
Leland S. Taylor
Ronald E. Taylor

Lisa Tubbs
Lois Tubbs
Lynford Tubbs
Herbert Upton
Ben Van Tuyl
Marcia Van Tuyl
Edwin Vick
Mary Ellen Vick
Jackie Voss
Deborah Wendler
Gaillard Wendler
Levant Wheaton
Winifred Wheaton
Almira White
Hubert White
Matthias Winkler
Rosina Winkler
Dottie Zelisse

Easter flowers are given in honor of:

Robin Agnew
David & Linda Arnsdorf
Ginny Bell
The Chapman Family
Rev. William Colwell
Michele Derr
Robin Fosheim
Margo & Clem Gill
Paul Haebig
Shana Horan
Grace Krapohl
Greta Krapohl
Stephanie Lyons
Norma Marshall
Gene Martz
Evans McGowan
Stacey Pakela
Katie & Bill Parker
Melissa Anne Rogers
Jay Sanderford
Rick Spalding
Linda Speck
Linda Strodman
Sara Vander Voort
Dave VanderMeer
Our Alpha House Volunteers
The Staff of FPC
The Stephen Ministers



ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Presbyterian Church will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 5. Easter Monday is an annual holiday for staff.

Celebrating Rev. Rick Spalding! Having served as our Interim Pastor and guide for much of our interim period, Rev. Rick Spalding will conclude his meaningful ministry with us next Sunday, April 11. Rick has served here for nearly 21 months. He will be returning to full-time retired life in Ipswich, Massachusetts, with his partner Peter Bubriski. We will celebrate Rick (and also thank Peter) on April 11 at the online Coffee Hour. Please be sure to join us around 10:30 on April 11 at the Zoom link in this bulletin. We will be giving Rick several gifts, including a financial offering. To make a donation to the gift fund, send your checks to the Finance Office, or contact Anna Miller (amiller@firstpresbyterian.org) with questions. Personal notes and cards may be dropped off at church Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or brought to church this afternoon during the Sanctuary Stroll.

The prayer team meets Monday mornings via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86466149357>) from 9:00–9:30 a.m. with Rev. Rogers. Join us to offer prayer for others or bring the needs of you and your loved ones for prayer. Questions? Contact Rev. Rogers.

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. Each Sunday at 12:15 p.m., via Zoom, there are virtual college lunches. Contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

Women: Stay Connected! PW Moderator Ginny Bell sends out timely information in email blasts. Contact Ginny (virginiabell2013@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.

Journeys Bible Study meets via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>) on the second and fourth Thursdays monthly at 11:30 a.m. Contact Rev. Frazier (afrazier@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

Mature Singles are enjoying dinners in restaurants on Friday evenings, but planning only one or two weeks at a time. Please call Marcy (995–2519) if you would like more information.

A Virtual Hymn-Sing by the Sanctus Ringers, Chancel Choir, and FPC Section Leaders is available on YouTube and Facebook.

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is committed to being open and transparent in our search for a Lead Pastor. We meet weekly and can be reached at pnc2021@firstpresbyterian.org. Information about our search is available at: <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/about/staff-leadership/pastoral-transition-first-presbyterian>

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Classes do not meet today. Please join us next week.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Please contact Beca Torres-Davenport (btorresdavenport@firstpresbyterian.org), Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry, for information about opportunities to connect and resources for children and families.

Today is Family Sunday. Christian Formation classes for children and youth do not meet on Family Sundays and the Children's Choir does not rehearse.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Please contact Rev. Mark Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families, for information about the numerous ways youth are connecting at this time.

Today is Family Sunday. Christian Formation classes for children and youth do not meet on Family Sundays and the Children's Choir does not rehearse.

Mature Ministries in April. Join us via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984>) on Thursday, April 8, for our monthly Lunch & Learn. Shannon Schmoll, PhD, Director of Michigan State University's Abrams Planetarium will present "Spring Skies over Ann Arbor."

Mamas' Group, a new opportunity, meets virtually on Friday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. Parenting is hard but you're not alone. Find your place of support, encouragement, listening ears and open hearts as we share our struggles and successes! Mamas of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers are invited to join us as we begin this new journey together. Come when you can, step away if you need to – we're here for you! For more information, contact Sarah Glinka Endicott (sngendicott@gmail.com), Charlotte Sawtell (anderson.cee@gmail.com), or Beca Torres-Davenport (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org).

A Virtual Art Exhibit by Benjamin Winans is available at www.benjaminwinans.weebly.com.

Share your talent at the All-Church Variety Show on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Your act must be three minutes or less. If your performance is more than three minutes, you may be asked to shorten it or, if that is not possible, to choose something else. You may record your act or talent from home or schedule a time to record yourself in the Sanctuary. Is there an act you could perform with members of your family? Maybe it's singing, playing an instrument, dancing, reciting poetry, sharing a piece of visual art you have created, performing comedy, juggling, performing gymnastics – you name it. Variety makes the show...well, a Variety Show! Please contact Dave VanderMeer (dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Barbara DeLancey, Parish Nurse & Wellness Coordinator

J. P. DiMaggio, Interim Bridge Administrator

Reverend Andrew Frazier, Resident Minister

Pat Gilbreath, Welcome Center Coordinator

Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Reverend Khayla Johnson, Resident Minister

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

Reverend Evans McGowan, Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Kellie McInchak, Children's Choir Director

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Stacey Pakela, Parish Nurse & Wellness Coordinator

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Reverend Dr. Rick Spalding, Interim Pastor

Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Alyssa Walker, Finance Assistant



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