

WORSHIP GUIDE for APRIL 17, 2022

HAPPY EASTER!

SETTING YOUR SPACE

Hello, Friends! There are those who claim that the church celebrates Easter every Sunday, every time we gather, and while that's true – still, there's something special about the holiday itself, when we proclaim loudly this incredible story of love stronger than death, of a kin-dom of justice and peace and joy that cannot be kept down. At FBC, this Sunday is our chance to celebrate together for the first time in three years, and we're doing it up – a special Easter choir has been rehearsing, so we'll hear them, plus Nadya's gorgeous harp, and the Social Team is prepping boxes of goodies that will be waiting for us in the Gathering Room after the service (sorry, we don't have a virtual equivalent of those treat boxes...). We hope you can be part of this Sunday, and part of this story continuing to be made real in our midst, both in how we proclaim and celebrate resurrection, and how we seek to dwell in its mystery and live out its promise each day.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Geoff Clayton, Pianist

Introit: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today: An Easter Prelude for Piano and Organ with Choral Introit* by Joel Raney

– Geoff Clayton; Muriel Dresser, Organist; and the FBC Easter Choir

Welcome – Rev. Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor

Gathering Song: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* (NC Hymnal #240)

- Marilyn Dresser and Muriel Dresser

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

To the tomb the women bring, Alleluia!
Spices rich, an offering, Alleluia!
Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia!
Savior come to set us free, Alleluia!

There the angel clothed in white, Alleluia!
Tells the news with great delight, Alleluia!
This the news the angel gives, Alleluia!
That the Sovereign glorious lives, Alleluia!

“Hasten now to Galilee,” Alleluia!
“Tell the others what you see!” Alleluia!
With excitement trembling, Alleluia!
Off they run, good news to bring, Alleluia!

Gathering Prayer & Communal Prayer *from Bret Hesla*

- Tim Duerfeldt

Gracious Spirit, who loves us like a mother, whose realm is blooming among us now and within: We pray that your compassion guides us in every action. Give us what we need for each day, and help us to be satisfied with the miracle of that alone. Forgiver, whose embrace brings us to wholeness without our asking, may we reconcile ourselves to one another in humility. And may we cancel the crushing debts that imprison our neighbors so that communities of joy and health may flourish. May we neither profit from nor ignore evil, but ever work to thwart it with non-violence

as we co-create the realm of peace in this world, now and each day.
Amen.

Special Music: Garden Medley - Nadya King, Harpist

Children's Time - Sean P. Williams, Children's & Youth Minister

Scripture: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. Very early on the first day of the week, the sun was just coming up, they come to the tomb.

On their way they were asking one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" But when they looked up, they see that the stone has already been rolled away.

It was a huge stone.

The women went into the tomb and they saw a young man, sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe. They were alarmed.

The man says: "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus, from Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

*So they went out and fled from the tomb.
For terror and amazement had seized them.
And they said nothing.*

Not a thing to anyone.

For they were afraid.

Sermon: “Breath” – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Response Song: *Now the Green Blade Rises* (NC Hymnal #238)

- Doug Verigin and Dave King

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain;
Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that their Love would never wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus, who for three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Christ’s warm touch can call us back to life again,
Fiends of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Pastoral Prayer – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Anthem: *This is the Day* by Dan Forrest

- FBC Music Team & Easter Choir

Closing Words – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Going Forth Song: *The Day of Resurrection* (NC Hymnal #245)

- Marilyn Dresser and Geoff Clayton

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;

the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the whole world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.

Benediction – Rev. Erika Marksbury

One: Friends, ... may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Postlude – Muriel Dresser

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To register your worship attendance:

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