



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Easter Sunday

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, Pastor

Jeff Southard, liturgist

April 5, 2026

Andrew Morris, organist

Prelude

One: The Lord has Risen.

All: He has Risen indeed!

Welcome and Announcements

Friendship Pads: Please help us maintain good communication with all our members and guests by completing the Friendship Register as it is passed from the end of each pew. Please let us know the best way to communicate with you. Be sure to greet folks new to you at the end of worship!

Cards of Encouragement: Blue cards found in the pew rack ~ please put in offering plate and we will send them out in the mail.

Choral Introit

Christ Arose!

Chancel Choir

Dr. Adrian Hartsough, director

Call to Worship

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

All: On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

All: But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

One: The good news is dancing!

All: The good news is on the loose!

One: The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

All: Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

One: Let us worship our good-news Christ.

* **Hymn of Praise**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
EASTER HYMN

Glory to God #232

* **Call To Confession**

Jeff Southard, liturgist

One: Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember that the world did its worst to God. The world battered and bruised, betrayed and abandoned, crucified and buried our living God. And despite it all, Jesus still chose to return. Jesus rose again and immediately went to work spreading God's love to the very people who had hurt him. So hear me when I say, there is nothing you can do that could keep God's love at bay. With that good news mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us. Friends, let us pray:

* **Prayer of Confession**

Jeff Southard, liturgist

Gracious God, we want to be Easter people. We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid. And we don't know where to look. And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing. So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias." We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.

* **Silent Prayers of Confession**

* **Pouring the Water**

* **Words of Forgiveness** Jeff Southard, liturgist
One: Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration:
All: Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.

* **Passing the Peace** Jeff Southard, liturgist
One: Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.
(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

* **Hymn** GLORIA PATRI
Glory Be to the Father
Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Prayer of Illumination Jeff Southard, liturgist
Holy One, all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story. All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting. All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you. So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here. Speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you. Amen.

Hebrew Bible Reading Jeremiah 31:1-6 Jeff Southard, liturgist

Gospel Reading Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon *“The Good News Is:
Alive in the World”* Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Hymn *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*
ST. KEVIN **Glory to God #234**

Call to Offertory

Offering *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
GILBERT MARTIN, arr. Chancel Choir
Andrew Morris, organ

* **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost **Glory to God #606**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Sacrament of Holy Communion
Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Words of institution
Communion of the People

As the ushers direct your row, please come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and the cup.
You will partake of communion at the front and return to your seats by the south aisle.
Communion will be taken to those who wish to remain in their seats.

Prayer of the People and 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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God -- who brings sunshine after rain and works healing in the midst of pain; who looks into each soul with love, touches each memory with blessing and longs for us to know we are beloved; who splashes the world with springtime color and fills the air with the singing of birds and the roar of the ocean; who meets us at the tomb of our fears and sends us out with hope and joy.

We believe in Jesus --the risen Christ, the Friend of the forgotten, Savior of the world; who loves us without judgment, yet persuades us to change; who joins us as we walk and work with the poor and oppressed; who befriends us when we feel lonely, surprises us when we feel bored, prods us when we get complacent; who loves all children, dances with the elderly, shows compassion to the dying and blesses the breaking of bread.

We believe in the Holy Spirit --who weaves us into communities of faith of all ages, nations and races; who is the stillness in every silence, the breath in every deep sigh, the love in every tender embrace.

We believe we are called to be an Easter people --challenging despair with glowing hope, acting peacefully in the midst of painful Good Fridays and living joyfully even in the midst of harsh realities.

We believe in the church --the hand-holding, heartily singing and passionate, caring fellowship of seekers and finders. This we believe.

* Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus from *The Messiah*
Everyone is welcome to join in the singing!

Andrew Morris, organ

* Stand as you are able – in spirit or in body

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and be in community with us! Whether you are joining us virtually or in person; we are happy to have you with us anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded, please **email us at linda@firstpreslawrence.org** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you. If you are interested in membership, please talk to Pastor Helen.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- We celebrate the birth of First Presbyterian Church on April 5, 1858. Happy 168th Birthday!
- Myron Shipley died March 19th, in Piggott, Arkansas. Services will be held at FPC on May 2nd at 10:00 am
- Ann McMillian, mother of Annette Camlin, is receiving palliative care at her home in Bellevue, NE. Prayers for her and Annette's sister, Kerri Campbell who is their Mom's primary caregiver with health issues of her own.
- Betty Thomas, Joy Laird's mother, is receiving hospice care at Presbyterian Manor. Prayers please.
- Kristi McAlister continues to receive cancer treatments as part of a clinical trial. She is tolerating the treatment well enough that she can attend her daughter's softball games. Both Kristi and Pat McAlister (her mother) are grateful for our continued prayers and support.
- Kathryn Roblee is doing well with her rehab and looks forward to returning to her apartment at the Manor soon. Prayers for patience in her waiting
- Diana Schoneweis' great nephew, Luke (12), is dealing with brain cancer and all the treatments that brings.
- George Crump asks for our prayers as he navigates life issues.
- Joan Snodgrass is in rehab in Overland Park after a fall at her home.
- Sammie Locke is receiving hospice care at Bridge Haven where she lives.
- Please keep Ruthanne Stucky, Mother of Alisa Stucky, in your prayers as she undergoes treatment for cancer.
- Angela Randall's sister has a cancer diagnosis. Angela teaches for First 5 Years.
- Please keep Cyndy Glogau and her family (of First 5 Years) in your prayers as they work on health issues.

- Susan and Pat - dealing with health concerns.
- Nancy Brink, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer.
- Allison Clunn-McPlin and family, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- Prayers for our pastor and church leaders, for those leading our community, our state, and our nation.

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Heather Soper, Vic and Dianne Sisk

Greeters: The Oertel Family

South Door Greeter: Jan Poulsen

Offering: Paul Laird and Jeff Southard

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Bag Brigade Volunteer: Margie Dyck

Deacon Family Groups - 2026

A-B	Dorothy Devlin	Lf-Me	Deborah Norwood
C-Di	Lois Dutcher	Mf-N	Becky May
Dj-F	Sandy Groene	O-R	Diana Schoneweis
G-Ha	Melinda Fischer	S-Si	Charles Tuttle
Hb-J	Lucille Eggenberger	Sj-To	Mary Parkinson
K-Le	Linda Longino	Tj-Z	Nikki Barcomb

Birthdays in the Congregation

April 7

James Emert

April 8

Gary Forister
Josephine Pringle
Kowen Pringle

April 10

Cristin Chapin

April 12

bobbie frances mcdonald

Calendar

April 5

Easter

9:15 am	Children's Sunday School
9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am	Youth Easter Breakfast
10:30 am	Worship
April 6 – Church Office closed	
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
1:15 pm	FPC Staff Meeting
3:30 pm	PW Eve Circle
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

April 7

9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
1:00 pm	Small World Classes

April 8

9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
6:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

April 9

9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
1:00 pm	Small World Classes
2:30 pm	Small World Board Meeting
6:30 pm	PW Ruth Circle

April 10

9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
10:00 am	Men's Group

April 11

10:00 am	Justice Matters Research Committee
1:30 pm	Presbyterian Manor Tea Party

April 12

8:45 am	Presby Pickers Rehearsal
9:15 am	Children's Sunday School
9:15 am	Regenerative Agriculture Class
10:30 am	Worship
4:00 pm	Confirmation with Helen

Children Sunday School

- **Sunday School Classes for Children**

- Our Children gather for fun and adventure in Room 14 at 9:15 am. Everyone is welcome to be a part of the fun!

Adult and Youth Sunday School – No class today.

- **Regenerative Agriculture in Douglas County** - On Sunday, April 12 in the Fireside Room Margit Kaltenecker, Douglas County Agriculture Agent, will describe regenerative farming practices, including how soil health is improved, biodiversity increases, and why nature can heal and strengthen the land for future generations. This is a great time to learn how to get ready for the gardening season. Good information for small gardens or large farms!

Youth Sponsored Activities

- **Easter Breakfast** - FPC Youth will host breakfast on Easter Sunday beginning at 9:30 am. This is a biscuits and gravy fundraiser for the Youth. Your donation will help fund Youth Group activities. Come have a great breakfast before the Easter Worship. If you can volunteer supplies or help, please contact Kelly at 785-979-2713. See you there!

Pastor Helen's Monday Class is not meeting this week, but will resume on Monday, April 13 at 2 pm in the Fireside Room. We are currently studying the history of religion in the US. This is a class Helen taught at Northeastern Oklahoma A & M college. We will survey the history of religion in America and its impact on social reform, politics and intellectual life. It will offer an opportunity to study the religions of the world and the influence faith and religion have exercised in American history. Everyone is welcome!