

EASTER SUNDAY

The proclamation of Easter Day is that all is well. And as a Christian, I say this not with the easy optimism of one who has never known a time when all was not well but as one who has faced the Cross in all its obscenity as well as in all its glory, who has known one way or another what it is like to live separated from God. In the end, God’s will, not ours, is done. Love is the victor. Death is not the end. The end is life. His life and our lives through him, in him. Existence has greater depths of beauty, mystery, and benediction than the wildest visionary ever dared to dream. Christ our Lord has risen.

–Frederick Buechner
“The End Is Life”
The Magnificent Defeat

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE Presto assai (from *Quartet in C, Op. 1, No. 6*) Franz Joseph Haydn
Westminster Strings
Rigaudon André Campra
Brass Choir and Organ

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT Entrata Festiva Flor Peeters
Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat.
Christ o’erpow’reth, Christ now reigneth, Christ doth command.
Pope Sixtus V
Brass Choir and Organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come to celebrate good news.
People: We gather for worship in awe and wonder. The tomb is empty; death is not the last word.
Leader: Christ is Risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed!

***HYMN NO. 123** (blue hymnal) Jesus Christ Is Risen Today *Easter Hymn*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we are often captive to our doubts and fears. We fear death as the ending of life. We fear death as the letting go of old ways, old relationships, old self-understandings. We also confess our fear of life. We fear that which is different, we fear change that comes too fast and a future that seems too uncertain. Most of all, we fear what we become when we fear, for we fail to live joyfully in freedom as your children, we overlook those you would have us serve, and we neglect to be fully present to your holy presence. Forgive us and raise us to new life in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON** Healey Willan

(Congregation singing – music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE** Celtic Alleluia (*sing twice*) Fintan O’Carroll

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING John 20:1-18

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Ellen Anderson

Children age 4 through 3rd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children’s Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING I Peter 1:1-5; Colossians 3:1-4

SERMON “Practice Resurrection” Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 119** (blue hymnal) The Strife Is O’er *Victory*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) *from A Declaration of Faith*

In the death of Jesus Christ, God’s way in the world seemed finally defeated. But death was no match for God. The resurrection of Jesus was God’s victory over death. Death often seems to prove that life is not worth living, that our best efforts and deepest affections go for nothing. We do not yet see the end of death. But Christ has been raised from the dead, transformed and yet the same person. In his resurrection is the promise of ours. We are convinced that the life God wills for each of us is stronger than the death that destroys us. The glory of that life exceeds our imagination, but we know we shall be with Christ. So we treat death as a broken

power. Its ultimate defeat is certain. In the face of death we grieve. Yet in hope we celebrate life. No life ends so tragically that its meaning and value are destroyed. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

(During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.)

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

If you would like to receive our newsletter or more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM But Thanks Be to God (from *The Messiah*) G. F. Handel
But thanks be to God, who giveth us victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57

Westminster Strings

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal) *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him
above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 104** (blue hymnal) (11:00) Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! *Hymn to Joy*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Hail Thee, Festival Day! *Salve festa dies*

***POSTLUDE** Toccata (from *Symphony No. 5*) Charles-Marie Widor

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Kristi Gordon and Bill Farnham.

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR APRIL: Janice Rawe

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Helen Bonnyman and Jake Tidwell

GREETERS (11:00): Jean Bonnyman and Deborah Phillips

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) Angela Grobe, Nathan Seidner

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Brass and Chancel Choirs and Westminster Strings

SENIOR USHER: Cile Mathews

USHERS:

(9:00) Genet Weber and Bill Wiesehuegel

(11:00) Bill and Jane Beintema, John and Beth Chang, Bob Murrian

OUR THANKS to Michael Shortal for conducting and Eileen Rudd for playing the organ on the Campra and the Peeters. We appreciate their invaluable assistance and contribution to our worship this morning.

THIS MORNING'S OFFERTORY ANTHEM is taken from the third part of Handel's *The Messiah* and is scored for choir and strings. The buoyant and lively writing beautifully convey the joyous, reaffirming text.

ORGANIST CRAIG CRAMER will be heard in recital at Westminster on Friday evening, May 6, at 8:00 as part of this season's *Musica Organi* series. Works by J. S. Bach, Joel Martinson, Felix Mendelssohn, and Heinrich Scheidemann will be featured. We do hope to see you there!

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL collection is **next Sunday**. We bring this offering each "First Sunday," as our share in maintaining the Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville. The average monthly cost to serve breakfast and lunch is \$200. Your support is greatly appreciated!

LOST AND FOUND: Please take a moment to check the lost and found table in the Schilling Gallery to claim any items that belong to you. We will take unclaimed items to Goodwill.

STEPHEN MINISTERS meet for CE and Supervision tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is Wednesday. Please send your articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES HAVE ARRIVED! As a token of appreciation, each family who had pictures taken receives a free pictorial directory. Your free directory can be picked up in the Schilling Gallery. If you would like to purchase a directory, we have some available for \$5.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR CAMP JOHN KNOX: Happy Easter from Camp John Knox. The deadline for the Early Bird discount is tomorrow. Register before midnight Monday and save \$25 off of camp fees. Go online to johnknoxcenter.org to see the camp calendar and register, or call the office at 865-376-2236 for more information.

YOUTH CAR WASH: On Sunday, May 1 the youth are having a car wash during Sunday School and the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We're raising funds for our Operation Back Yard mission trip and Montreat.

WESTMINSTER YOUNG FAMILIES AND YOUTH CLUB are having lunch and a game day next Sunday, May 1 at 12:15 p.m.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: On Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 a.m. we will meet in the McKinnon Room for breakfast prepared by Phil Barnette and a short discussion-oriented lesson prepared by Tim Crais. If you want to review the lesson ahead of time, you may pick up a hard copy in the church office, or ask the office to email the lesson to you. Everyone is welcome. Come join us and bring a friend.

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT

For this month's service project, the Elementary Sunday School will assemble Hygiene Kits for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance effort in Japan. Donations are welcome and appreciated as we try to fill as many of these kits as we can. There is a green basket located in the Schilling Gallery where we are collecting donations through May 1. Items needed for each kit are:

hand towel (approximately 16"x28"), washcloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards, please), bath size bar of soap, toothbrush (in original packaging), 6 adhesive bandage strips

Thank you for your continuing support of our WPC young children!

THE CAP GROUP

(Caring for Aging Parents)

Marty Marsh will be facilitating a support group for members of our church who are caring for or are responsible for the care of elderly parents or other disabled loved ones. Marty is a recently retired licensed master level Medical Social Worker. She has both personal and professional experience with the challenges faced by a caregiver, such as emotional stress and the need for assistance through community resources. **An organizational meeting is planned for Sunday, May 1 in the library, immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.** If this is a group that could benefit you and your family, please come to our initial meeting.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Classes beginning May 1

Christianity in a Globalized World

led by Scott Brunger

This class will explore Christianity's history and current role in the wider world.

Bible Experience (Prayer Room)

led by Ellen Anderson

This ongoing exploration of the Bible and how it speaks to us in today's world will continue to examine Paul's letters.

99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children

This class will read and discuss excerpts from *99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children*.

Books are available in the church office for \$7.50.

Compassion Knoxville

May 11, 2011

6:30 p.m.

As Knox County continues to discern how best to address the issue of homelessness in our community, the newly organized Compassion Knoxville Task Force is offering citizens the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas on this issue. On Wednesday, May 11, Westminster Presbyterian Church will be host to a Compassion Knoxville round robin discussion on homelessness in our community. The meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m., and the discussion will focus on two main questions:

1. Homelessness is an issue that impacts our community. What do you suggest we do about it?
2. What are the major concerns you have about dealing with homelessness?

To participate in efforts to end homelessness is to give voice to those who do not have voice and to be part of a process that encourages the self-development of people. You are invited to share in the conversation that will hopefully guide future decisions in a positive direction. For more information you may contact Ginny Baker or Dr. Amy Gibson, Coordinator of Compassion Knoxville at Amykgibson@compassionknoxville.com.



THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING is collected today. The offering is used to support those whose lives have been impacted by disaster, as well as those made vulnerable by hunger, disease, unemployment and environmental degradation. Our gifts are divided among the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Easter Flowers

Given by:

Ellen and Ken Anderson. In honor of parents, Jim and Alice Burgoon
 . . .In memory of mother, Lucille Anderson

Anonymous. In honor of and gratitude for Westminster - constantly
 providing a sacred place to worship with loving support for all who enter

Laura and Jack Barron. In honor of Harriette Rowe
 . . .In memory of Mr. John and Viola Barron and Mr. Lester Rowe

Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren. In loving memory of Clark Beilharz

The Bonnyman Family. In honor of the staff and volunteers who serve Westminster Church

The Boyce-Woodall Family. In memory of Jack and Eloise Woodall,
 Lee Boyce, Erwin Boyce and Virginia Boyce

Marlene Browning. In memory of Larry Browning

Sara Cantrell. In honor of Channing, Nash, Robert and Thomas
Bart and Ruthie Carey. In memory of their mothers, Edith Landis and Betty Carey

Scott and Jerry Carley. In appreciation of Peter's dedication to the WPC music program

Barbara Cline. In honor of Lisa, Gabrielle, Jeff, and the late Jennings Cline

Daniel, Amanda and Fiona Collins. In memory of Cleta and Herbert Bethay
 and Fred and Shirley Collins

The Dean Family. In memory of Scott, Carter and Mimi

Christie Dowling. In memory of her father, John C. Struckmeyer

Reed and Lisa Ellis. In loving memory of their fathers, William Elting and T. M. "Tyke" Ellis

Suzanne Graham. In memory of neighbors, The Trents

Don and Connie Graham. In memory of Clifton Ethridge, Jim Graham and Joann Graham
 . . .In honor of Josephine Ethridge

John and Janet Gross. In memory of Sue and Chalmer Newman,
 Lillian and Marshall Gross, Jeffrey Allen Gross, Irene Rudness

Betty and John Hanes. In memory of Suzanne Sain, founder of the Westminster Flower Guild
 . . .In honor of all Flower Guild members past and present

Brad and Judy Horn. In honor of their baby grandson, Theodore Nichols, Jr. and his parents

Kathy and Sky Huck. In honor of their wonderful grandchildren

Anne and John Langley. In honor of Mrs. Robert B. Shepard

Rick and Janice Rawe. In honor of all the members of the Flower Guild

J. B. And Lacy Reafsnyder. In memory of JoAnn Reafsnyder

Scott and Linda Rutherford. In memory of their parents,
 Cecil and Georgia Rutherford and Laurence and Louise Baker

Tim and Joyce, Matt, Tiffany, Chandler and Camryn Ryan, Lauren and Brandon Bice
 . . .In honor of Helen Ryan

John and Elizabeth Salsbery. In memory of Chris Salsbery and Scott Dean

Jay and Debbie Schmid. In honor of her mother, Doris F. Payne
 . . .In memory of their parents, L. David Fischer and Jim and Elizabeth (Flip) Schmid

Cindy and Rachael Spangler. In honor of their wonderful friend, Vivian Gammon

Janelle Stueck. In honor of Stephen Ministers

Julia Tortorelli. In memory of her grandparents,
 Flora and Joseph Tortorelli and Alberta and William Bertelsen and her Aunt Charlotte

Robin and Joe Ben Turner. In honor of their grandchildren, Will, Nathalie and Bennett Turner

The Wiesehuegel Family. In loving memory of Shirley Jean Rechenbach

John and Shirley Wittman. In honor of church staff

Jim and Linda Yates. In honor of their ten grandchildren