

St. Andrew Worship

Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023
Sunday at 10:30 AM

Dial: 669 900 9128
Zoom Meeting ID: 831 688 4211
Password: 9850
Use *6 to unmute your phone

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

Welcome and Announcement

He is Risen!
He Is Risen Indeed!

Introit

“A Joyful Peal” by Patricia Hurlbutt

St. Andrew Bell Choir

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.

Thankful is the song we sing!

For this day moves us past darkness and despair.

Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.

Jesus said, “Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Christ lives here and now. He is among us at this and every moment!

May his peace and presence be known to you.

And also to you.

Let us greet one another with expressions of Christian love.

Living Cross

During the hymn, please come forward and place a few flowers on the cross, turning something lifeless into a living representation of the new life we have in Christ



*Hymn 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!

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!

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!

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We serve a risen Savior yet live as if in chains. Forgive us, Lord that we are so hesitant to live the resurrection life. Forgive us that we fail to show through word and action the truth that you loved us into your kingdom through the glorious mystery of the Cross. Forgive us that there is still fear in our lives that prevents us from achieving our full potential. Draw us close. Open our eyes to the glory of the risen Christ, our hearts to the wonder of the Cross and our hands to the service of your kingdom where you have placed us. That your name might be glorified through our lives. AMEN

(Time for Silent Reflection)

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Sisters and brothers, the power of resurrection is at work in us and with us! The Spirit of Christ leads us onto paths of victory over sorrow and death, disbelief and fear. Receive God's grace in the secret place in your heart, where there are no words. For the forgiveness of God is too marvelous for words. *Amen.*

Response: "Gloria Patri"

Anthem

"O Risen Lord"

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*Hymn 238

"Thine Is the Glory"

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Refrain

Prayer of Illumination (Responsive)

Living God, today's Good News is so wondrous, so magnificent, that we struggle to wrap our heads around it. Give our hearts the wisdom to receive that which our heads cannot fully understand. Send your Spirit to fill our whole bodies with your resurrection promise. This we pray in your holy and good name. *Amen.*

First Lesson:

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! ² Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵ There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; ¹⁶ the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly." ¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. ¹⁸ The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. ¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Reflection

"Easter Song" by Anne Herring

St. Andrew Bell Choir

Second Lesson:

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Sermon

"Resurrection: This Is My Message"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

Anthem

"Rejoice Together Ev'ry One"

St. Andrew Choir

Offering

Offertory

"Hosanna" by Eileen Mihm

St. Andrew Bell Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer (Responsive)

Mighty God of Resurrection and Redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! We offer our hands and feet and voices to take the celebration out of this place into a world that needs hope so desperately! May we go into the world with such energy, excitement, and power that the ground shakes once again, that lightning flashes, and that people see in us your redeeming love and the triumph of light over darkness! In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Let all of God's children say **Amen**.

*Hymn 245

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

"Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!

Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!

Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!

Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Benediction