



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of Aptos

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CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

10:30 A.M.

✠ Second Sunday of Easter ✠

April 27, 2025

Guest Preacher, Rev. Jane Grady

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Leader: At the beginning of the day, at the beginning of the week, the faithful yet fearful people gathered together. It was then that the Spirit of God came among them and whispered:

People: (Whispering out loud, but muted) **Peace be with you.**

Leader: Their hearts skipped a beat as they double checked that the lock on the front door was still latched. So the Presence of God spoke a little louder:

People: (Whispering out loud, but muted) **Peace be with you.**

Leader: They looked around at each other, puzzled, amazed, befuddled, and bewildered. Some smiled. Some doubted. Some wondered if it were just too magical sounding or too good to be true. So the Christ showed them that his own scars were not the end of the story and that is when the words of God began to feel joyous:

People: (Speaking out loud, but muted) **Peace be with you.**

Leader: From that day on, the people of God repeated the words to one another when they gathered. From one generation to the next, they exchanged the words as a greeting to one another to remember that Holy interruption to fear:

People: (Speaking out loud in expression of joyful community) **Peace be with you!**

*HYMN

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

GtG #255

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sons and daughters, let us sing
with heavenly hosts to Christ our King;

today the grave has lost its sting!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

That night the apostles met in fear;
among them came their Lord most dear,
and said, "My peace be with you here."

Alleluia! Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard,
how they had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples' word.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see;
and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be."

Alleluia! Alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen,
and yet whose faith has constant been,
for they eternal life shall win.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O God, your love is boundless and your grace exceeds our imaginations. You keep finding ways to be among us, even when the doors of our hearts are locked. Graciously, you seek us out. We cannot hide, but we confess that sin has us in its grip. It has led us from your ways and corrupted our best intentions. Correct our vision, cleanse our hearts, create in us a place where we can welcome you and receive the fullness of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Let us hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free from sin and sorrow. In Jesus Christ, God offers us the gift of peace. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill our hearts this day. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (*unison*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

ANTHEM

St. Andrew Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer: "*Lord, Listen to your Children Praying*" (*pew song sheet*)

Prayers lifted to God

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

*HYMN

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

GtG #254

That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light when,
to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.

He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.

From every weapon death can wield, your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you have to say to us today. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 150

OT page #583

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

SECOND LESSON

John 20:19-31

NT page #115

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them

and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON

Unlock the Doors

The Rev. Jane Grady

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

We believe in God, maker of all things,
provider of all things, who loves all people.

We follow Jesus, in whom salvation has come to us:
he sees us for who we are,
heals the wounds of our hearts, and makes us new.
In his death and resurrection, we see the deepest truth of life.

We live by the power of the Holy Spirit,
which empowers us for self-giving love.
We give thanks for the Church, the Body of Christ,
and for the gift of forgiveness,
the power of resurrection
and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

OFFERING

Doxology (*unison*)

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.

Offering Prayer (*unison*)

Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purposes in the world. In the presence of fear, may these gifts bring hope. Where doors are locked, may these offerings open new possibilities. Where there are wounds, may these gifts honor their truth. In the presence of despair, may these offerings testify to a new world rising up. To these our hopes, we dedicate ourselves and our offerings. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

GtG #233

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
And listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

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

BENEDICTION

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!

TODAY'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

LITURGIST: Sandy Petznick

GREETER: Stan Cowan

COFFEE HOST: Stan Cowan

OFFERING COUNTER: Janet Maack



Unity Candle

This week we pray for Comunidad LatinoAmericana, served by Rev. Stella Matusiewicz, and husband Mike Matusiewicz. This is the only congregation in the Presbytery of San Jose that worships in Spanish!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, April 21 st	Bell Choir @ 2:30 pm
Thursday, April 24 th	Choir Rehearsal @ 2 pm
Sunday, April 27 th	Guest Preacher: Jane Grady

The Sunday Lunch Group #1 will meet today at 12 noon at the Back 9 Restaurant at Pasatiempo outdoor setting. Please let Keith know if you are coming, and if you'd like to carpool: kitehill@comcast.net or 831-429-1055.

NEW Book Study! Starting May 12th we will discuss Richard Rohr's newest book, *The Tears of Things*. From Penguin Random House website: *How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? What can we do with our private disappointments and the anger we feel in such an unjust world? In his most personal book yet, Richard Rohr turns to the writings of the Jewish prophets, revealing how some of the lesser-read books of the Bible offer us a crucial path forward today.* **Join us Mondays at 1 pm via Zoom.**



