



First Presbyterian Church
Remote Worship Service
First Sunday in Easter
April 12, 2020

Opening Remarks/Prayer

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:1-10

*Hymn# 275

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today!”

Scripture Reading

Romans 6: 3-11

Sermon

“Dead as a Doornail”

The Rev. Steve Frazier

Celebration Music

“Christ is Arisen, Let Us Sing!”

Arr. Kenneth T. Kosche

*Christ is Arisen, let us sing, Alleluia!
Today the grave has lost its sting, Alleluia!
Adoring praises now we bring, Alleluia!
To Christ our Savior Heavenly King, Alleluia!*

Concluding Prayer/Charge

Readings from the New International Version

Romans 6:3-11 ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin- ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 28:1-10 ¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the LORD came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

LOVE

"For God so loved the world He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." - John 3:16

Many of us learned this verse when we were little kids in Sunday School. Some have only recently been introduced to it. Either way, it says a lot about love. Depending on the translation, love is mentioned in the bible between 310 and 348 times. A few tender and joyous verses follow:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" - Matthew 22:37 - 39

"Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." - Ephesians 4:2:

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." - 1 Peter 4:8

"Above all, love each other deeply because love covers over a multitude of sins." also translated as "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." - John 15:12

"...faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." - 1 Corinthians 13:1

and

"We love because He first loved us." - 1 John 4:19

Less familiar secular thoughts about [love](#):

"A loving heart is the truest wisdom." – Charles Dickens

"Love doesn't make the world go around. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile." - Franklin P. Jones

First Presbyterian Church is a congregation of loving people of all kinds. How do we know we love? One way we know right now is because we're staying home. A loving sacrifice.

Christ's sacrifice on Good Friday is the epitome of God's love. We commemorate that sacrifice with prayer and quiet reflection, eagerly awaiting the resurrection in three days. Even though we won't be together to celebrate Christ's victory over death, the love of Christ envelopes us all.