WEBSTER GROVES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Easter
April 18, 2021
9:30 a.m.

OUR MISSION
We seek to live Christ’s love,
welcome all people and joyfully serve God.
Service for the Lord’s Day

As the music begins, let us use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our faith as the people of God.

~GATHERING FOR GOD’S WORD~

PRELUDE
“Cantad al Senor” (O Sing to the Lord)         Kevin McChesney
Ely Ringers

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP            Brian Tobin, Liturgist
Beloved, we are God’s children now;
when Christ is revealed, we will be like him.

OPENING HYMN #377
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”         HOUSTON/Arr. Paul Manz
(music at the end of the bulletin)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The One who calls us to repent, hears us.
In trust that our Creator knows us through and through,
let us open our hearts to the healing of God’s forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good and gracious God,
we are creatures of dust,
ignorant of your revelation,
misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection among us,
needing forgiveness.
We repent of our failure to give as you have given to us.
We beg your mercy for our fallen world.
We seek your Word, that we may live with the faith of Jesus.
Be our solace in this life and always.
We ask this as your own children, holy and incomplete.
Forgive us and lead us. Amen.
ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
your plea for absolution has been heard.
God’s promises are sure: your sins are forgiven.
Peace be with you.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

~PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD~

SCRIPTURE CONVERSATION
Rev. Hannah Zyla

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Brian Tobin, Liturgist

Holy God, by your Spirit
reveal your radical, surprising love;
come to us through your holy word,
and let us hear what you are saying. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 John 3:1-7

3 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.
36 While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

SERMON

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

~RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD~

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ryan and Katie Furtick present their son Clark Ryan

PROFESSION OF FAITH

APOSTLES CREED

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only son our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of God,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING

WELCOME

Let us welcome them together:

With joy and thanksgiving,
we welcome you, into Christ’s church;
for we are all one in Christ.
We promise to love you, encourage you, and support you,
to share the good news of the gospel with you,
and to help you know and follow Christ.
BIBLE PRESENTATION
The peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE
“You Have Put on Christ”
arr. Howard Hughes
Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION
God has made the One who was rejected
the cornerstone of a new community.
In the name of Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Holy One,
as the risen Christ opened the minds of the disciples to understand the Scriptures
and gave them power through the Holy Spirit to walk boldly in this world,
open your people today to the healing, wisdom, and faith given in your Word;
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Prince of Peace,
as Christ Jesus showed his wounded hands and feet
to the terrified apostles,
reveal to your church, and to people of prayer in every faith,
the wounds of our neighbors, the fears of individuals and families,
and the avenues toward healing;
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.
Author of life,
we beg for peace among nations,
peace throughout communities,
peace within families.
Guide leaders and voters,
legislatures and parliaments,
judges and juries.
Teach diplomacy and let our ways be formed
so that all creatures, plants, and people may have plenty;
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Light in our darkness,
let your brightness burn in places shrouded in violence.
Reveal the pains that are hidden in secret.
Unveil the needs of our own hearts
so that we may know the power of vulnerability.
Your Son was raised to life even from the grave.
Show us again that life comes from death;
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Healer of our every ill,
we pray for all who are in need,
for refugees of war and all who are displaced by storms,
for rescue workers and medical teams,
for those whose bones are weary,
for those who show us the power of community
to give hope to the frightened,
and for all who have asked for our prayers;
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.
You command us to bring to you our deepest desires, O God, and we pray now for those persons and concerns that lie on our hearts, spoken aloud or in silence. . . .

[A time of silence is kept.]

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Trusting in your abundant mercy, O God, we commend into your care all for whom we pray, and our own lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

OFFERING INVITATION

As Jesus gave himself fully for us and then appeared to the disciples bringing peace, so let us now bring wholeness and healing to others through our tithes and gifts.

OFFERTORY

“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”
arr. Robert Hobby
Shawn Portell, organ

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord God, we offer to you only a portion of what you have given us.
All that we have is from your creative hand.
All that we can give away we do through Jesus’ love.
All our renewal comes from the Holy Spirit’s wisdom.
Deal graciously with these gifts so that others may have joy; in Jesus’ name. Amen.
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, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #742  "We Will Walk With God"  SIZOHAMBA NAYE
(music at the end of the bulletin)

CHARGE

The word of God assures us:
What we will be has not yet been revealed.
Live, therefore, with hope,
share your joy,
withhold your anger,
shed your disappointments,
turn to all people with gentleness.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless and keep you,
shine upon you with grace and mercy,
and give you what is needed for each new day
POSTLUDE

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Shawn Portell, organ

arr. Paul Manz

As you rest in the postlude, our final offering to God, you are invited to use this time to reflect on how you have met God here today, and how you will bring God’s love into the world that awaits.

Worship Notes

Some prayers and liturgical texts for worship are provided by:
Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2012
Westminster John Knox Press from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship © 2018

Those Who Serve Today

Ushers: Freda Cook, Mark Johnson, Debbie Miali, Bryce Rawers, Bob Weng, Judy Weng
Liturgist: Brian Tobin
Camera Operators: Allison Byrne, Josh Zumwinkel

Chancel Flowers

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God in celebration of spring, the gift of Phil and Gay Moppert.

Online Worship

In order to reach beyond the walls of WGPC and into the homes of those who are unable to worship with us in person, each of our worship services is live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website, wgpc.org, Facebook and YouTube pages. Children’s participation in the Scripture Conversation indicates implied parental consent to be recorded.

Ministry Staff

Pastor: Rev. Edwin Zumwinkel III efc@wgpc.org
Associate Pastor: Rev. Hannah Zyla hmd@wgpc.org
Theologian in Residence: Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews sra@wgpc.org
Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care: John Rawlings jdrtsn@gmail.com
Director of Music Ministries/Organist: Shawn Portell spp@wgpc.org
Interim Director of Youth and Family Services: Rev. Pat Cleeland pdc@wgpc.org
Mission Outreach Coordinator: Beth Kazlaukas bok@wgpc.org
Connections Coordinator: Tracey Rapisardo tar@wgpc.org
Business Administrator: Jan Scheurer jls@wgpc.org
Assistant Business Administrator: Joyce Kimmons jlk@wgpc.org
Senior Staff Assistant: open
Educational Ministries Asst, Digital Communications Specialist: Cherstin Byers chb@wgpc.org
Custodians: Pete Brennan (Supervisor), Pierre Campbell, Ken Kastner 314-962-210 x3212

45 West Lockwood Avenue www.wgpc.org
Webster Groves, MO 63119 314-962-9210
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Kathleen Thomerson

Choir: 1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
Choir: 2. I want to see the brightness of God.
All: 3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow Jesus.
I want to look at Jesus.
I want to be with Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and When we have run with patience the race, we

star of my life is Jesus.
show me the way to the Father.
shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The

night and the day are both alike. The

Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

We Will Walk with God

Sizohamba naye

We will walk with God, my brothers; we will walk with God.
Sizo-hamba naye, wo wo wo, sizo-hamba naye.

We will walk with God, my sisters; we will walk with God.
Sizo-hamba naye, wo wo wo, sizo-hamba naye.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
Ngomhla wenja-bula, sizo-hamba naye.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
Ngomhla wenja-bula, sizo-hamba naye.
April 18, 2021 Announcements

Adult Education Hour

Sunday, April 18th, 10:45am - Fellowship Hall or Zoom

Anti-Voter Bills are everywhere these days. Forty seven of the 50 states have Anti-Voter Bills coming up in their state legislatures. Join us to learn more about these bills, why they are popping up, and how disinformation plays a part in voter suppression. Jennifer Slavik Lohman, Director of the St. Louis Voter Protection Coalition, will join us to discuss this important topic. She will also offer ways we can actively work to make sure everyone has access to easily and fairly vote.

For those attending church in person, this Zoom meeting will be offered on the big screen in Fellowship Hall - socially distanced - after the service concludes.

Adult Faith Formation - Benefits of Bees

Sunday, April 25th, 10:45am - Fellowship Hall or Zoom

Join us to hear Dr. Ed Spevak explain the important relationship between the bees and other beneficial insects buzzing around our home gardens, and the plants that rely on them to thrive. He has dedicated the last 40 years of his career to the conservation of invertebrates and is currently the Curator of Invertebrates at the Saint Louis Zoo and the director of the Zoo’s WildCare Institute Center for Native Pollinator Conservation (CNPC). He also Co-Chairs the Imperiled Bombus Task Force of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign and is on the Steering Committees of the Honey Bee Health Coalition, Keystone Monarch Collaborative and Missourians for Monarchs Collaborative and the Science Advisory Council of Field to Market. Join us for this informative and fun talk!

See the Friday Flash for the Zoom link.

Bee Knowledgeable

Did you know that you can help support Missouri’s native bees? Hanging bee houses provides nesting space for solitary bee species. They should face east to absorb the morning sun and be near native blooming plants because most bees nest only a few yards away from their food source. Missouri Department of Conservation Private Land Services Division Chief Bill White stresses the need for yearly maintenance on bee houses. “After bees emerge in the spring, the used tubes need to be removed, plugged so they can’t be reused because they will harbor parasites and disease, as well as pollen mites that could impact another generation.

Missouri Department of Conservation, MDC Urges Public to “Bee-Friend” Native Pollinators, Jill Pritchard, Apr 22, 2019.
ECC Fundraiser - O&O Pizza
Tuesday, April 20th 4:00-10:00pm

The ECC is hosting another dining fundraiser! This month, O&O Pizza has kindly offered to donate back a portion of ALL their dinner sales this Tuesday back to the school. If you are thinking of dining out this week, please consider grabbing dinner (apps, pizzas or entrees) from O&O Pizza on Tuesday.

102 W. Lockwood Ave
314-942-1216
oandopizza.lh-stl.com
Dine-in and carry out available.

Teachers, Aides and Subs Wanted

The Webster Groves Presbyterian ECC is currently looking for loving and energetic adults to fill open preschool teaching positions. These include teacher's aide and sub spots for weekday mornings. For more information, please contact Amanda Kingsbury at 314-962-9210x3110 or email ecc@wgpc.org.

Attention Graduates!

Are you or someone in your family graduating from high school or college this spring? If so, we want to know! Email Cherstin at chb@wgpc.org with your graduation info. High schoolers, we want to know where you're graduating from and what your plans are for next year. College students, we want to know where you're graduating from and what degree you will receive.

Birthday Blessings

Would you like to be part of making someone’s day special? Join our card writing team! Email Tracey at tar@wgpc.org for details.

Mini Meets

Tuesdays at 1:00pm - Outside the Hale Entrance

Mini Meets begins Tuesday, April 20 at 1:00pm. Bring a lawn chair and wear a mask. Come meet and greet your church friends at the Hale Entrance.

Faithful Endings, Hopeful Beginnings

Sundays at 5:00pm - Church Parlor

This grief support group has a new meeting time - 5:00pm on Sundays through May 16th. Contact Stephen Minister and facilitator Nancy Knight by email at ncknight218@gmail.com or at 314-494-2283 for more info.