

ROCK LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

Gathering

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Hymn of Promise”

Arr. John Carter

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THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 16

I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;

In the night also my heart instructs me.

Therefore, my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
My body also rests secure.

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy.

Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

Tune: HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Brien Wren, 1984. © Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted and broadcast by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O God, for seeking to limit Your truth to what we can understand. Forgive us for chasing after gods of our own making. We reduce the circles of connection and caring that Jesus demonstrated. Goodness is crucified by our narrow prejudices, and our doubts plunge us into despair. Be to us a refuge, granting us courage to face the questions that haunt us until they lead us to deeper understanding.

(A time for personal confession) Let All God's people say: **Amen**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE WITH SONG

Tune: EASTER HYMN

**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!**

Listening to the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3-9 The Message (MSG)

³⁻⁵ What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you'll have it all—life healed and whole. ⁶⁻⁷ I know how great this makes you feel, even though you have to put up with every kind of aggravation in the meantime. Pure gold put in the fire comes out of it *proved* pure; genuine faith put through this suffering comes out *proved* genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it's your faith, not your gold, that God will have on display as evidence of his victory. ⁸⁻⁹ You never saw him, yet you love him. You still don't see him, yet you trust him—with laughter and singing. Because you kept on believing, you'll get what you're looking forward to: total salvation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“He Is Lord”

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

**He is Life, he is Life! He has died to set us free and he is Life;
And he calls us all to live evermore, for Jesus Christ is Life.**

Anonymous. Public Domain

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

¹⁹When 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.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.” ²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Doubt It?”

Jim Musgrave

Responding to God

AFFIRMATION

HYMN “These Things Did Thomas Count as Real” Tune: O WALY WALY

**These things did Thomas count as real:
the warmth of blood, the chill of steel,
the grain of wood, the heft of stone,
the last frail twitch of blood and bone.**

**His reasoned certainties denied
that one could live when one had died.
until his fingers read like Braille
the markings of the spear and nail.**

**May we, O God, by grace believe
and thus the risen Christ receive,
whose raw imprinted hands reached out
and beckoned Thomas from his doubt.**

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984. © 1986 Oxford University Press.
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PASTORAL PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Going Forth to Serve

INVITATION

BENEDICTION

HYMN “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” Tune: FOREST GREEN

**We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: “My peace be with you here.”
We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
But in your promise we rejoice and cry, “My Lord and God!”**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.
And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
May we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.**

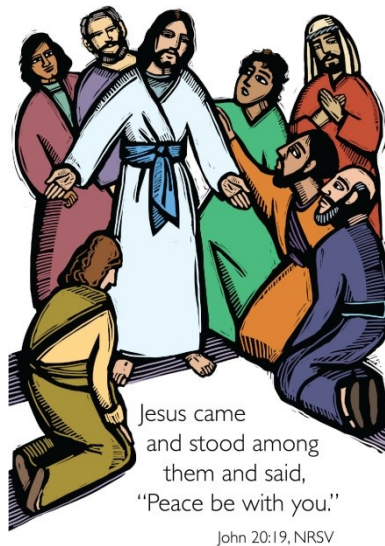
Henry Alford, 1844. Public Domain

WORDS OF DISMISSAL

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

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Church Notes

HEART AND HAND DONATIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC.

Donations for food only are being accepted Mondays through Thursdays, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at the alley gate behind the store at 212 D Street, South Charleston 25303. It is best to call ahead if possible at 304-744-6741.

MEMBERS WISHING TO BLESS RLPC'S MINISTRY FINANCIALLY.

With the fact that we are not coming together for worship, many of you who have generously given to the ministry of RLPC may want to continue your gifts to the church. Please drop your gift in the mailbox at the choir room or send it by mail. A prayer of dedication will be included in the Prayers of the People. Thank you for your support of our missions.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We are continuing to receive gifts for the OGHs. Please make any gift you feel led to give and indicate on your check that it is for this most worthy program. This helps the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Disaster Assistance, and Self-Development of People.

Nurture Time

April 19: Read 1 Peter 1:3-9 The author of 1 Peter says we have a “living hope” in Christ. Essentially, this means though faith we can entrust everything to God’s care. What are some examples from your life that reveal this “living hope,” this trust in God?

Prayer List

*To add/remove/correct names on the prayer list,
please call the church office (768-4141) or email rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com*

Prayers for Concerns – Our friends and neighbors and their families

Hilda Alsop’s cousin,	Brad Harkins	Joy Ratcliff
Bonnie Leslie	Addilyn Hardin	Sarah Shaver
Merrily Bailey	Tre’ Hardin	Mary Anne Smith
Niall Bailey	Juanita Hefner	Mike Spurgeon
Sgt. Major Jeff Bibb	Jim Johnson	Susan Spurgeon
Day Bishop	Mark King	Gregory Stonestreet
Barb Clark	Cheryl Laws	Bill Wagner
Dick Clark	Cheryl Morgan	Ella Grace Washington
Jo Clark	Abby Pauley	Jo Wilson
Sue DeWald	Jackie Pauley	
Lee Ann Goff	Ruth Pritchard	

Prayers for our nation and our world through this time of uncertainty due to the Corona virus outbreak. 40,000 deaths a year from gun violence; global climate change; those who are struggling with the aftermath of natural disasters; all those who have lost someone to a drug overdose; all who struggle physically, spiritually, emotionally, financially or in their relationships; freedom and peace throughout the world; refugees and refugee families; all those whose lives are affected by violence wherever it occurs; Friends of Bluestone Camp and conference center’s financial challenge.

Prayers for our Military

Brett Baker	Brent Bishop	Evan Chaney
Jeff Barker	Steve Cash	

All who are serving, who have been injured and the families who have lost someone in combat; those who live and serve on the Korean Peninsula and other nations in that region of the world; our troops facing terrorist attacks.

Prayers for those in Senior Residential Centers - Cliff Asbury, Kanawha Place; Betty Berry, Edgewood Summit; Sam Ford, Charleston Transitional Care/Eastbrook; Barbara Shriver, Sweetbriar

Prayers for those at home - Reva Asbury, Jeanette Bates, Anne Copper, Bonnie Cheely, Anita McCormick, Anita Wehrmann

Prayer List for Churches –Beverly Presbyterian Church; First Presbyterian Church, Ripley; Waverly-Bethel Presbyterian Church, Waverly; Gititu (GAY’tee-toe); Gura Parish (GOO’rah)

