

Second Edition

APRIL 2021 ISSUE



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On Second Thought...

I love liturgy. Don't know if that makes me a nerd or not - probably does. But it's true. I like responsive readings and group readings, I like when the gathered community says ancient words that our ancestors in the faith also said, and I like that we aren't left to our own devices to know what to say during worship. In that way, the liturgy is actually kind of liberating. It frees us from having to think about what to say so that we can focus on what we are saying AND the One to whom we are saying it.

One of the things within the liturgy that I love are the litanies, the call and response formula of ritualized words where the worship leader says a particular phrase and the gathered community responds with a well known response. We have several that we use regularly:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Praise the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

This last one is one we use to begin worship and gatherings, but is really the beginning of the eucharistic prayer we use for communion. It actually has a name, the *Sursum Corda* (Latin: "lift up your hearts" or literally, "lift hearts") and it was written in the 3rd century.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

They are lifted up to the Lord.

(Original: We lift them up to the Lord.)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

I don't know about you, but for me there is something deeply comforting about these phrases. When I speak them, either as a worshiper or worship leader, I feel deeply connected not just to others in the room, but to something much larger than myself.

My favorite of all of these, however, is the one we use on Easter morning and throughout the Easter season:

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed!



Just typing those words fills my heart with joy and celebration. Have you ever really thought about them? I mean, okay, "He is risen!" We get it. Jesus rose from the dead. But what about the response? What about that extra word? "He is risen, *indeed!*"

Usually we think of the word "indeed" as a word emphasizing agreement or that someone is correct.

"Am I correct?" "Yes, indeed!"

"Do I look good today?" "Indeed, you do!"

"That sounds like a hit record." "It does, indeed."

The word "indeed" comes from the Latin phrase *in dede*, which means "in fact, in truth, in reality." So when we add it to, "He is risen!" we are saying the resurrection is a fact, it is truth, reality, that it happened.

In English, however, we can also separate the phrase into two English words: in deed. According to the dictionary, a "deed" is an "action that is performed intentionally or on purpose," as in, "He did a good deed." When we think about it this way, it adds even more weight and emphasis to the phrase, "He is risen!" When God raised Jesus from the dead, it was an action done *intentionally* and *on purpose*. Jesus wasn't raised by accident and it wasn't something people just believed. Jesus was raised in *deed*. It *really* happened and this was God's plan for salvation all along.

Every year I look forward to saying that greeting on Easter Sunday, to hearing the congregation joyfully proclaim, "HE IS RISEN INDEED!" I can't even begin to describe how difficult it was last year to have to *imagine* people saying that at home. Despite the joy of the proclamation, the silence in that moment was heart-breaking. And it will be again this year.

Which means it will be all the more joyful on Sunday, April 18th to be able to say it, together, in person, in the sanctuary, at the start of worship.

Indeed!

A simple line drawing of a hand holding a pen, with the word "indeed" written in cursive.



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UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS & TOPICS

WE CONTINUE OUR YEAR-LONG SERMON SERIES ON
THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES IN THE MONTH OF APRIL.
HERE ARE THE SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS:

April 4	Acts 8:26-40	The Ethiopian Eunuch
April 11	Acts 9:1-19a	The Conversion of Saul
April 18	Acts 9:19b-31	Saul Preaches & Visits Jerusalem
April 25	Acts 9:32-43	Peter's works of healing

IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND BUILDING CLOSURE UPDATE

AT THEIR MARCH MEETING, THE SESSION DECIDED TO
RESUME IN-PERSON WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH.

PLEASE READ OUR REOPENING GUIDELINES **FOUND ON PAGES 8 & 9.**
FOR THOSE WHO ARE STILL NOT COMFORTABLE WORSHIPING IN
PERSON, WE INVITE YOU TO CONTINUE TO WORSHIP WITH US VIA
OUR LIVE STREAM.

NEW WI-FI NETWORK

We have a new Wi-Fi network for use by anyone who visits the building.
The network is “**Second Presbyterian Church**” and the password is **Psalm100**.

This network covers the entire building, as well as the sanctuary, courtyard and parking lot.
Please feel free to save it as a network that connects automatically for your device.

HOLY WEEK AT SECOND

WE WILL GATHER VIRTUALLY EACH DAY OF HOLY WEEK.

DAILY HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS:

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY AT 8:00 A.M., A 5-MINUTE REFLECTION ON A PORTION OF STEPHEN'S SPEECH (ACTS 7) WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AND YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31ST, 12:00 NOON LENTEN CONCERT FOR REFLECTION:

OUR FINAL LENTEN CONCERT FOR REFLECTION WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AND YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

APRIL 1ST, 6:15 P.M. MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP:

A LIVE STREAMED SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT. SELF-CONTAINED COMMUNION CUPS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO USE THEM.

APRIL 2ND, 12:00 NOON, GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER SERVICE:

A LIVE STREAMED SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAYER. THERE WILL BE SCRIPTURE READINGS, PRAYERS, SONGS, AND SILENCE. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO FIND A QUIET, MEDITATIVE PLACE FOR THIS SERVICE.

DRIVE-BY FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

ON FRIDAY APRIL 2ND THE CROSS WILL BE PLACED UNDER THE PORTICO, WHERE THE ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY WERE.

WE INVITE YOU TO COME BY ANYTIME FRIDAY AFTERNOON OR SATURDAY AND PLACE FLOWERS ON THE CROSS, JUST AS WE NORMALLY DO DURING IN-PERSON EASTER WORSHIP.

ON SUNDAY MORNING WE WILL BRING THE CROSS INTO THE SANCTUARY WHERE IT WILL BE PRESENT FOR THE WORSHIP SERVICE. WEATHER PERMITTING, WE WILL PLACE THE CROSS OUTSIDE THE SANCTUARY FOLLOWING WORSHIP, AND WE INVITE ANYONE WHO WISHES TO COME AND TAKE THEIR PICTURE WITH IT.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Matt Casey

04/04

Lauren Dodson

04/06

Dean Farmer

04/07

Frances Johnson

04/09

Natalie Pruitt

04/11

Mary Howard

04/15

Laura Turner

04/19

Ginny Williams

04/19

Alex Robinson

04/22

Dick Dodson

04/23

Dale Henley

04/23

Anne Armstrong

04/24

Ann Simpson

04/28

Please note: We take special care in insuring that all active members' birthdays are included on this list, if you notice a discrepancy, kindly advise the church office.

Thank you.

RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We have adopted the following guidelines for safely returning to in-person worship on April 18th. The health and safety of the entire congregation depends upon each of us following these guidelines, so we ask that you please read and familiarize yourself with them so that we may return safely and comfortably.

Prior to Worship:

- **No pre-registering or signing in:**

Worshippers will *not* be required to pre-register for worship or sign-in when they arrive. The Knox County Board of Health is no longer doing contact tracing, so neither will we. Should we be made aware of someone testing positive after being in worship, we will send out an announcement alerting the congregation of the positive test, allowing individuals to determine how they wish to respond.

- **No attendance limits:**

There will be no attendance limits for worship. Every other pew will be closed off to encourage proper physical distancing and ushers will help direct households to seating areas that are properly distanced from other worshippers.

- **All entrances/exits will be open:**

All entrances/exits to the building and areas of the building will be open and available for use by worshippers.

Please see the following page for additional guidelines.

RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP CONTINUED

During Worship:

- **Face coverings:** Worshipers are asked to wear a face covering *at all times* while inside the building, *even if they have been vaccinated*. This is not only to protect and show our love for others, but allows us all to focus on God, rather than who is and is not wearing a face covering. Disposable face coverings will be available at each entrance to the sanctuary.
- **Safe Physical distancing:** Each household is asked to maintain an appropriate physical distance and to refrain from physical contact with those outside of one's household, *even if they have been vaccinated*. Worshipers are asked not to congregate in groups inside the sanctuary but are free to congregate and visit with one another outside in the Sanctuary Courtyard or other outdoor areas on the church grounds.
- **Nursery:** The nursery will be open during worship and childcare will be available for children, infant to age 6.
- **Singing:** Worshipers may sing hymns quietly while wearing a mask. We will only sing two hymns in a service, rather than three, and we may sing fewer verses than normal. Hymnbooks will not be used; lyrics will be displayed on a screen.
- **Bulletins/Bibles:** Worship bulletins will be available for those who desire one. For those who do not, all communal aspects of the worship service will be displayed on a screen. This will include Scripture readings, as Bibles will not be in the pews.
- **Offering Plates:** We will not pass offering plates during the service. Plates will be placed at the entrances to the sanctuary and worshipers are encouraged to place their offering there, either as they enter or exit.
- **Communion:** We will celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month using self-contained communion cups. By mid-summer it may be possible to offer an optional intinction communion station up front for those who wish to come forward and partake of communion in this manner. This would be in addition to, not in place of, the self-contained communion cups. We do not see a return to "normal" communion until at least the fall.
- **Worship Leadership:** The choir will remain as it has been during the pandemic, 6-8 scholarship singers properly distanced, wearing masks and rehearsing on Sunday mornings. The liturgists and pastors will lead worship from the lectern and pulpit. They will not wear face coverings while speaking from the lectern/pulpit but will wear face coverings the rest of the time.

The Worship Ministry Unit will revisit these guidelines throughout the summer and adjust accordingly as case levels, hospitalization levels, and vaccination levels allow.

THE BOOK OF CONFESSIONS

This spring Pastor Tim is leading us in a study of The Book of Confessions. The Presbyterian Church has adopted a collection of twelve creeds and confessions that serve as its central theological resource guiding us in biblical interpretation and theological beliefs. This collection, our Book of Confessions, reminds us that we are not the first Christians to wrestle with what we believe or how we put our faith into action. Indeed, each creed or confession is written out of a need to speak as people of faith to contemporary cultural and political conversations. The Confessions allow us to be in conversation with our theological ancestors as we do the same. As retired pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Dr. William Pender, once put it, "The confessions mean that our ancestors get a vote in how we interpret Scripture."

A new study will be posted on our website and YouTube channel each Thursday at noon. We will gather virtually via Zoom on the 2nd Wednesday of each month to discuss the confessions and ask questions of each other. Our next Zoom discussion will be April 14th at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link will be sent out to everyone on our email distribution list. If you are not on our email list and would like to join us, contact the church office to receive the link.



Child Care Volunteers Needed!

WE ARE EXCITED AND LOOKING
FORWARD TO COMING BACK TO "IN
PERSON" WORSHIP ON APRIL 18TH.

WE ARE IN NEED OF 2 VOLUNTEERS
ON SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR THE
NURSERY AND
TODDLER/PRESCHOOL CLASSES.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR HAVE
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
HOLLY GRIMM AT
HGRIMM@2NDPRES.ORG OR
865-243-6353.

A THANK YOU MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Once again, I continue to be amazed by the support and generosity of Knox County Citizens for the Juvenile Court Stuffed Animal Drive.

I wish everyone could witness the relief and comfort these toys bring to our children who are generally frightened by the circumstances that cause them to be in Court. Rest assured that the stuffed animals we have received, and purchased, will be put to good use. Your recent donation has already made children smile.

Thank you for responding to our call for help,

Timothy E. Irwin, Judge
Knox County Juvenile Court



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

As Jesus says in Matthew 25, the Church belongs with those in need - with those suffering from natural and human-caused disasters; with those lacking access to food, water and healthcare; and with those struggling for justice, righteousness, and peace. Through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, we are there because we are the Church, together.

We would normally receive this offering on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Since we will be live streaming on Easter Sunday, checks may be mailed to the church with One Great Hour of Sharing marked on the memo line.

One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs:

- *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*
- *Presbyterian Hunger Program*
- *Self-Development of People*

Updates from the Session

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 2021 STATED SESSION MEETING

Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.

Received the Treasurer's Report.

Elected Clerk Nancy Montgomery for another three year term.

Approved to start in-person worship on Sunday, April 18, 2021 subject to time for Staff preparation.

Approved to pay for organ repair by Barger and Nix Organs from the Music Fund.


Placed Jessica Lewis under the care of the Session as she continues her journey to become a Pastor. She is attending the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary on-line.

Placed the Catherine Beals bequest of \$25,000 in the Mission Account of the Second Presbyterian Endowment Fund.

FEBRUARY BUDGET REPORT

	FEBRUARY	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$50,993.26	\$249,145.56	\$788,556.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$54,679.99	\$99,360.70	\$788,556.00
EXCESS/(SHORTAGE)	(\$4,686.73)	\$148,784.86	---



1 Maundy Thursday 8a Holy Week Reflections (Online) 6 ¹⁵ p Maundy Thursday Service (Streamed)	2 Good Friday Church Office Closed 12p Good Friday Prayer Service (Streamed) 	3
4 Easter Sunday 11a Worship (Live Stream Only) EASTER	5 Easter Monday Church Office Closed	6 9a Staff Meeting 5p Facilities (Zoom) 6p Care & Compassion (Zoom) 7p Service & Outreach (Zoom) 7p Boy Scouts Mtg
7 7p Stewardship (Zoom)	8	9 Church Office Closed
10	11 11a Worship (Live Stream Only)	12 6p Discipleship (Zoom)
13 6p Worship Ministry (Zoom) 7p Boy Scouts Mtg	14 7p 2 nd Wednesday Bible Study (Zoom) 7p Stewardship (Zoom)	15
16 Church Office Closed	17	18 11a Worship (In Person & Live Stream)
19 12p Preschool Board (Zoom)	20 May Second Edition Deadline! 9a Staff Meeting 6p Session Meeting (Zoom) 7p Boy Scouts Mtg	21
22	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 11a Worship (In Person & Live Stream)	26	27 9a FISH Pantry 7p Boy Scouts Mtg
28	29	30 Church Office Closed



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THE SECOND EDITION
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2829 KINGSTON PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

*Responding in gratitude to God's love and grace,
we are a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community,
following Jesus and serving him in the world.*

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2021

Monica Casey
Betsy Foster
John Henley
Cleston Jones

CLASS OF 2022

Dean Farmer
Margie Gill
Patricia Kennedy
Marty McLean

CLASS OF 2023

Tracy Horton
Neal Peebles
Charles White
Tim Wright

MINISTRY TEAMS & MODERATORS

Worship & Celebration

Betsy Foster
Margie Gill

Discipleship

Monica Casey
Patricia Kennedy

Service & Outreach

Tim Wright
Tracy Horton

Care & Compassion

Marty McLean
Charles White

Stewardship

John Henley
Dean Farmer
Neal Peebles

Preschool Board

Cleston Jones