

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**April 14, 2024**  
**10:30AM**

PRELUDE

*Regina Caeli*  
Mary Jo Cox, organ

Charles Callahan

WORDS OF GREETING

One: How good it is for us to  
come together as kindred spirits.

**All: Hallelujah!**

WELCOME

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

INTROIT

*O God, We Worship Thee*

Hal Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The bread of life opens our eyes.

**All: The word of life opens our ears.**

One: The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,

**All: and by those wounds we are healed.**

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

David Stevens

\*HYMN No. 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent Confession)

\*UNISON 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

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*RESPONSE No. 238

“Thine is the Glory” (v.1)  
**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory  
thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,**

kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.

Thine is the glory,  
risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory  
thou o'er death hast won.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING; BLESSING

**Congregation:** May the Lord go with you as you  
worship and learn together.

Children: May the Lord be with you as you  
worship here.

**Congregation:** Go in peace.

Children: We go in peace. Amen.

*During the response to the Passing of the Peace, newborns through 5th grade are invited to come forward to the chancel steps for the blessing. After the blessing, they will be dismissed to the Nursery and to the Children's Worship Center in the lower level for the Children and Worship time. Please pick up your child from the Nursery or Worship Center when they have finished their time of worship.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:26b-48

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

ANTHEM

*Alleluia Round*

William Boyce, arr. R. Proulx

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:1-17

The Spirit speaks to the church today. **Thanks be to God.**

Question of the day: What human yearnings do we face as we follow in the Way of Jesus? How can we help each other on that journey?

SERMON

Keeping Body and Soul Together

Rev. David Sickelka

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *From Scripture*

**This is the good news which we have received,  
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,  
if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins  
according to the Scriptures, that he was buried,  
that he was raised on the third day,  
and that he appeared first to the women,  
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,  
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.  
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end;  
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

\*HYMN No. 443

*There Is a Redeemer*

"There Is a Redeemer" words and music by Melody Green  
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYER AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. 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 No. 295

*Go to the World!*

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\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You*

Hal Hopson

\* POSTLUDE

*Abbot's Leigh*

Paul Manz

Notes:

\*Stand in body and spirit.

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; David Stevens; The Chancel Choir; David Sickelka

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:

Laura Havens (Marge Havens' daughter in-law), J T Schmitt (Barb Lindley's son-in-law), Nick Baker, Wendy Shugert, Mike McNabb, Scott Campbell (Andrew & Martha Miller's friend), Betty Gempel, Jillian & Flynn Gray, Martha Loubert (sister-in-law of John, Pete, and Sheri Loubert), Lois Miller, Jaime Love (brother of Kevin Love), Louisa Ellis (Jeff & Cam Ellis granddaughter), Olivia Geisthardt (friend of Anna Clare Miller), Suzanne Hand, Charles Loubert, Jim Gilbert, Peter and Verna Russell, Lois Kerr, Sarah Gilbert, Joyce McNabb, Colleen Long, Lavona Osborne. Cathy Chang, Juan Lopez, and Noah Lapp, Vowles Elementary, First Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, MI, Christian Church of Sumba, and the Commission on Aging.

Offering

If you are joining us for worship in-person and would like to give an offering, please place your offering in an offering plate. You can also give your pledge, per capita payment, or offering by mailing it to the church office: First Presbyterian Church, 1250 Watson Road, Mt. Pleasant, 48858. You can also give an offering by going to the church's website, [www@fpcmp.org](http://www@fpcmp.org) and hit the "Give Now" button or use the QR Code,



### **Rev. David Sickelka**

The Reverend David Sickelka (Pastor Dave) was raised in rural NW Iowa on a farm between the towns of Sutherland and Primghar, in O'Brien County. With two older brothers and a younger sister, there were many opportunities for hay forts in the barn, snow forts in the winter, ball games of various stripes and lots of hands-on experience with conflict resolution! He attended Westmar College in Le Mars, Iowa earning a B.A. with majors in Christian Religion and Sociology. His Seminary experience was at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, located in New Brighton, Minnesota (a suburb of Minneapolis).

After earning his Master of Divinity degree there, he was ordained on June 9, 1985, in his home church in Calumet, Iowa. He served churches in western Nebraska, southern Illinois, northern Indiana, and Des Moines, Iowa. He is a certified Interim Minister through the Interim Ministry Network, and also a Certified Firefight (II). In October of 2021, Dave retired and is rehabbing the old CMU Presidents' (Grawn and Warriner) house on High and Franklin. It is the base of operations for a planned house church that will be part of the United Church of Christ (UCC).

Dave is married to Susan, also an ordained UCC pastor. The house is being faithfully guarded by Fiona, a Shetland Sheepdog, and Zippy, a Freezerrier (Bishon-Frise/terrier mix). Pastor Dave enjoys music, reading, drama, and crossword and Sudoku puzzles. This is not to say that he has any particular aptitude or skill in these areas! He has been known to spend hours tinkering on something mechanical that has stopped working or make a home repair job drag on for weeks. He is currently a nominee for the Committee on Ministry of the Covenant Association of the Michigan Conference UCC, which oversees matters of authorized ministry in the Association.

### **Classics @ The Presby**

Join us Sunday, April 2, at 4:00 pm for our final concert of the season. This concert will feature a program of poetry and music for viola with guest artists Matthew Roth, poet, and Kerry Harker Roth, violist. As always, the concert is free!

### **Celtic Worship**

Please join us for a Celtic Worship Service, to take place from 6:00-6:30 on four Wednesdays in May: 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29. Come to any or all! We'll meet in the sanctuary to celebrate this ancient tradition, which is our heritage as Presbyterians. We'll pray, sing, read scripture, and share communion and the joy of being together.

### **Who is God Calling Us to Be ROUNDTABLE Discussion**

The Who is God Calling Us to Be Team wants to hear from you. You are invited to a roundtable discussion. There are two times for you to choose to attend: Tuesday, April 23 from 6:30-7:30PM or Sunday, April 28 from 4:00-5:00PM. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Signup sheets are located on the Narthex bulletin board or you can go to the following link or QR Code: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADA823ABFAC34-48926229-whoisgod>.



### **Community Garden**

It is that time of year to start thinking about gardening. For the second year in a row will have garden plots available in the Community Gardens on the other side of the playground on the church property. If you are interested in a plot contact Andrew Miller by email [andrewmiller@fcmp.org](mailto:andrewmiller@fcmp.org) or call/text 989-954-3297.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Food Truck and Fellowship**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of June 18, July 16, and August 20 the Cruisin' Chef food truck will be parked in the church parking lot from 5-6:30PM. Come and get some food and have casual conversations with church and neighborhood friends. All are invited and all are welcome.

### **RUMMAGE SALE - JUNE 8**

Clean your closets!! Clean your basement! Bring your discarded treasures for our sale.