

Worship for 4 April 2021 – Easter Sunday  
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

One: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God:

**ALL: Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave. Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Sin and death shall reign no more.

**ALL: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Let this place resound with joy.

**ALL: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Invitation – “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grace, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

Prayer of Confession

*Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit we have been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet we have not lived as Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of danger. Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, but do not recognize your presence. Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know you with confidence. Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Forgive us, and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation. Amen.*

Scripture – Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 16:1-8 (see reverse)

Reflection – “A New Covenant”

Prayers of the People & 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.*

The Apostles’ Creed (see reverse)

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper

Hymn of Thanksgiving – “The Day of Resurrection!”

*The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad, the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from sin’s dominion free, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.*

*Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin; the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein. Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.*

Announcements & Blessing

### **Isaiah 25:6-9**

*On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.*

*Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.*

### **Mark 16:1-8**

*When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.*

*As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."*

*So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.*

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,*

*And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*How do we respond to the news that "he has been raised; he is not here."? What do we do with this? Who do we tell? How do we live our lives in the coming days, knowing that Christ is alive?*

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Loving God, through your goodness, we have this bread and cup to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.**

One: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread ... [*Minister continues ...*] The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE [From pews]

One: Let us give thanks together:

**All: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us, and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, on earth and in your heavenly host, with brothers and sisters around the world, we join in the song of your unending greatness. Amen.**

*Adapted from the Iona Abbey Community, Scotland*

**Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church**  
**Easter Flowers - 2021**



***The lilies in our sanctuary are given to the glory of God by:***

***Jason & Megan Cashing, In honor of our grandparents.***

***The Hunters (2), In honor of The Adult Sunday School Class; In memory of our parents and grandparents.***

***Larry & Linda Johnson (2), In memory of our parents: Homer & Mae Elkins and Clarence & Ima Johnson; In honor of our beautiful grandchildren: Corinne, Jack and Owen.***

***Mary Lykins, In memory of David Lykins.***

***Shirley MacNeill, In memory of James MacNeill, Aida Faries, and Trudy McClenny.***

***Rose Scott & Wayne Powers, In memory of all of our family members and friends.***

***Janet Swinton Shill, In memory of Eunice & Henry Peterson (parents).***

***Barbara Taliaferro (2), In memory of husband, Tommie L. Taliaferro; In memory of son, Tracy Taliaferro.***

***Please take your Easter lilies after the worship service.***