



A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

April 25, 2021
11:00am
Fourth Sunday of Easter

PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Guinness Drive ▪ Winterville, North Carolina 28590-9943 ▪ (252) 355-2273

www.peacepresbyterian.org

Grow in Grace, Live in Peace, Serve the Lord

We Gather as God's People

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

From "For Children" Book 2: No 12, 13, & 14

Bela Bartok

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 116

Jim Bryant, liturgist

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

Gracious is the Lord; our God is merciful. The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

For God has delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears, our feet from stumbling.

We walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Let us sing our praises and call on the name of the Lord!

*HYMN #14

For the Beauty of the Earth

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus tells us that repentance and forgiveness is to be offered in his name. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, who assures us of new life through the power of Christ's redeeming love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we doubt the good news of the resurrection and we fail to accept the responsibility to live as people who believe you have the power to make all things new. You give us the earth for our home, but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty. You give us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You give us commandments to structure community and lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love. Forgive our sin. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love. We lift up to you now, in the silence of this moment, our individual sins.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sisters and brothers, as Christ is our witness, God's power to pardon is immeasurable. Therefore, proclaim the good news to the ends of the earth: through the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Give praise to his name!
Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Give praise to his name!

SPECIAL MUSIC

From "For Children" Book 2: No 7, Book 1: No 15 & 11

Bela Bartok

We Share God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24: 13-49

SERMON

"On the Way to Emmaus"

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers of every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SOLO

We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight
Peggy Vaughan, soprano

DUNLAP'S CREEK

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR 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

We Go Forth As God's People

***HYMN #250**

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

May the Love of the Lord

SOON TI

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

POSTLUDE

From "For Children" Book 1: 21. Vigoroso

Bela Bartok

Worship Leadership Debbie Osterhoudt, Preacher Jim Bryant, Liturgist
Peggy Vaughan, Music Director & Soloist John Holter, piano Ron Skinner, audio & video
Ushers: Lisa Jones, Russ Lemken, Carol Poston Joanne Lang, Worship Ministry Team Chair

***You are invited to stand.**