

**PROVIDENCE FORGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020**

Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Libby Grammar

Leader: We enter a virtual gather space once again.

People: **We worship together in spirit and in truth, though not in person.**

Leader: We pray, sing, and listen to God's word, despite the fear that pervades our community.

People: **We trust Christ's peace, a peace given freely, despite our doubts and fears.**

Leader: We know the Holy Spirit is among us, blowing with a hopeful wind of change.

People: **We feel the presence of Christ, the one who died and rose again, and brings us eternal life.**

Leader: We submit to God's leading us in this time of transformation.

People: **We experience the joy of Easter when we celebrate all God has in store for us.**

Prayer of Praise

Nathan Bierma

Open our eyes, Lord.

**Without the gift of your revelation,
our eyes are kept from recognizing you.**

Appear before us, suddenly, unexpectedly, in all your glory.

**So that we, too, may proclaim to a world in despair,
that we have seen the risen Lord. Amen**

SONG of PRAISE - #138 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to
Thee; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed
Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who
wert, and art, and ever more shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinfulness Thy
glory may not see, Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee Perfect in power,
in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy neame, in
earth and sky and sea; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three
Persons, blessed Trinity!**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:13-27 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

ANTHEM – How Great Thou Art

Tom and Lisa

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Traditional)

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.

FOR CHILDREN

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (Easy-to-Read version)

“God has made everything beautiful in its time.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Church of Ireland

Risen One, like those disciples on the road to Emmaus,
we struggle to recognize you in the everyday journey of our lives.
We seek your wisdom in the midst of the questions we have
about the circumstances we find ourselves in—
circumstances sometimes beyond our control,
and those of our own making.

Open our eyes, Light of the World,
to your work of transformation in and around us.
As we walk with you day by day,
may your new life be made manifest in what we say to others.
Help us to understand the power of our words to hurt or to heal;
give us the graciousness to make all our conversations holy.
Just as we desire that our speaking be holy,
may our seeing be holy as well.
We are bombarded with images everyday, O Christ,
that shape our attitudes and behaviors.

As you opened the scriptures to the disciples
and taught them everything,
open our eyes to behold you in your Word,
in the beauty of nature and of other human beings.

So often we forget, Holy One,
that you invite us to abide with you;
to have our lives hidden in you.
We thank you that you travel with us in our joys and our concerns. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING— Ayars Lore

Opportunities are Easytithes <https://app.easytithes.com/App/Giving/pfpc>
C&F Bank for PFPC and mail to P.O. Box 239

SONG OF RESPONSE - #151 *Crown Him with many Crowns*

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne; Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love; Behold His hands and side, Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified: No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight, But downward bends his burning eye At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scepter sways From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Absorbed in prayer and praise; His reign shall know no end; And round His pierced feet Fair flowers of paradise extend Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years, The Potentate of time; Creator of the rolling spheres, In effably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me; Thy praise shall never, never fail Throughout eternity.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

People: Peace be with you!