

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: ...Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

One: Thanks be to God.

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

## \* PEACE RESPONSE:

Peace be with you, peace be with you. Sing alle-luia,  
sing to our God! Peace be with you, peace be with you.  
Sing alle-luia, sing to our God!

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

YOUTH CHOIR: Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree John Weaver  
*Soloist: Dorian Reining*

The tree of life my soul has seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green.  
The trees of nature fruitless be,  
Compared with Christ, the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I missed of all, but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ, the Apple Tree.

*solo:* I'm weary with my former toil;  
Here I will sit and rest awhile,  
Under the shadow I will be  
Of Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree.

## CHILDREN'S TIME:

*Children who want to go to Sunday School can follow the teachers to their room. Younger children may go to the nursery (ages 0-4), and all children should be picked up at their rooms following the service.*

\* HYMN #250: "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" *Promise*

THE EARLY CHURCH: Acts 4: 5-12 p. 121 NT

THE GOSPELS: 1 John 3: 16-24 p. 240 NT

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: "For the Beauty of the Earth" John Rutter

THE MESSAGE: "Having the World's Goods."

*"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?" - 1 John 3: 17*

## \* GLORIA PATRI:

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly  
Spi-rit: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is  
now, and will be for-ever. A men, A - men. A - men!

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\* RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS: *1 Timothy 6: 18-19*

One: We are called to be generous and ready to share;

**All: thus taking hold of that which is truly life.**

OFFERTORY: On Wings of Song F. Mendelssohn

\* DOXOLOGY: (to the tune of "All Creatures of Our God and King")

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia!**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore.**

**Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *from A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in 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... In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in 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. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED BY THE 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 sin 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 #249: "Because You Live, O Christ" *Vruechten*

\* BENEDICTION.

\* CHORAL AMEN.

POSTLUDE: Praeludium in G Major BWV 557 J. S. Bach

*Please join us for fellowship time in the narthex, followed by Adult Education in Dodds Hall.*

## IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

- **Come to today's CAR WASH!** You will hear from our youth this morning to learn more about why they are doing this, and whom they hope to help. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is a National and International agency that provides on-the-ground support during crises and followup care including rebuilding efforts. Gail Farnham would have been very happy we are doing this! The hygiene kits being supported today help in the initial aftermath of a disaster. \$15 for a car wash and \$5 for windows provides a hygiene kit worth \$20 to a family or group in need. Bring your car by the parking lot after worship today!



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**  
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

- **Today in Adult Education:** Did you know that even today there is a small Samaritan community in Israel and another one in Palestine? Who were the Samaritans in the time of Jesus? How was their faith different from Judaism? As we encounter people of a different faith, what can we learn from the way Jesus interacted with Samaritans? Join us at 11:30 in Dodds Hall for the Bible study led by Elmer Ewing.
- **Next week in Adult Education:** Join the youth group as they explain what they have learned about the importance of supporting disaster relief during their lock-in. During the lock-in, they slept over at the church for a night of games, adventure and discussion.
- **Would you like to help our church raise up a garden?** If you are interested, let Kirianne know! We have a church garden plot at Ithaca Community Gardens, and will plan to grow all the vegetables, herbs and flowers that you'd like to have all summer. Maybe in summer services we'll have a free fresh produce stand! Every small effort can help us all stay healthy, reduce the carbon cost of shipping, eliminate packaging, fight hunger, save a little grocery money, and come together as a strong community of faith. (Seedlings welcome!)
- **April 27-28.** Join us at 4:30 for this fun sleepover event here at the church. Youth 5th grade and up will have fun learning about disaster relief with church wide games, a pizza dinner and pop corn and a movie! **Children who wish to sleep at home are welcome too! Night ends at about 10:15pm.**



**Our greeters today are:**

Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Harrison Faulkner

**Our ushers today are:**

Geoffrey Lightfoote, Micah Beck, and Saw Htoo

**The flowers are given by**

Mark Hsu & Hsuehmeei Huang in memory of Jean S T Hsu

**We hold in our prayers:**

David Brown; Elmer Ewing; Tom Hurst; Betsy Mann;  
 Mark Radice; Vivian and Jim Russell; Marj Smart; Bob Stull;  
 and Tinny Oey, following a fall and a stroke, and  
 now at Cayuga Medical Center;  
 and Ken, Stella's nephew, following a serious heart attack,  
 from which he is not yet stable;  
 and Carolyn Grulich, Bobbie Kohut's sister, following  
 a serious car accident Monday.

**CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS**

- SUNDAY, APRIL 21:**  
 9:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)  
 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
 10:15 am Sunday School (Second Floor)  
 11:00 am Fellowship Time (Narthex)  
 11:20 am Adult Education (Dodds Hall)  
 Youth Group (Youth Room Second Floor)  
 Youth Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)
- MONDAY, APRIL 22:**  
 7-8:30 pm Session (Zoom)
- TUESDAY, APRIL 23:**  
 9:00-1pm FPCI Office Hours  
 6:30 pm Tai Chi (Narthex)  
 7-8 pm AA Meeting (Dodds Hall)  
 7-9 pm Irish Music (2nd floor classroom)
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24:**  
 9:00-1pm FPCI Office Hours  
 9:30 am Al-Anon (Fireside Room)  
 7-9:30 pm Finger Lakes Pipe Band
- THURSDAY, APRIL 25:**  
 9:00-1pm FPCI Office Hours  
 6:30 pm Community Game Night (Dodds Hall)  
 7:30-9 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
 7-9 pm YFN Music (2nd floor classroom)
- FRIDAY, APRIL 26:**  
 9:00-1pm FPCI Office Hours
- SATURDAY, APRIL 27.**  
 4:30 pm-9 am (04/28) Youth Group Sleep Over
- SUNDAY, APRIL 28:**  
 9:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)  
 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
 10:15 am Sunday School (Second Floor)  
 11:00 am Fellowship Time (Narthex)  
 11:20 am Adult Education (Dodds Hall)  
 Youth Group (Youth Room Second Floor)  
 Youth Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)

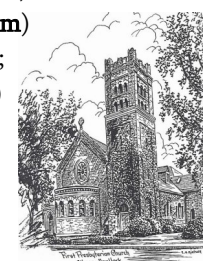
**The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca**

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For more info, please visit our website at [www.firstpresithaca.org](http://www.firstpresithaca.org)



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Following Christ's teachings,  
 we are fully inclusive in  
 membership and leadership.

A congregation proud  
 to be PC(USA).

**APRIL 21, 2024: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

*This service is being livestreamed! You can view services on our website.  
 Please share your name in the Friendship pads at the end of each pew.  
 Numbered hymns are found in the purple hymnals in the pew racks.*

PRELUDE: Prelude & Fugue in d minor Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME: Rev. Kirianne E. Weaver

Special Announcement: Car Wash Youth Group and Mylika

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: Liturgist: Susan Van Sickle

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
**All: and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

One: Day to day pours forth speech,  
**All: and night to night declares knowledge.**

One: There is no speech, nor are there words;  
**All: their voice is not heard,**

One: yet it goes out through all the earth,  
**All: and their words to the end of the world. Psalm 91: 1-4**

One: With thanks for the voice of God's creation:  
**All: Let us worship God!**

\* HYMN #247: "Now the Green Blade Rises" Noel Nouvelet

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Rev. Cynthia A. Weaver

**God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, forgive us and join with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, forgive us and touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, forgive us and pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace...**

*Time for silent confession.*