

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – Fanfare and Processional

Douglas E. Wagner

Prayer of Preparation (*you may wish to prepare for worship by praying silently*)

All-powerful God, in whom darkness and light are one, in the quiet of this day, we are weary; we are still afraid. Gather us into the fire of your divine heart and warm us with your love, that with renewed hope we may bear witness to the light of the risen Christ shining throughout the world. Make us ready and make us yours. We praise your holy name. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship – *Psalm for Easter Day*

arr. by Richard Proulx

Greeting and Announcements

Tommy Suttle

Call to Worship – (*responsive*)

Beloved of God, the hour has come. Let us gather at the tomb, so that with the disciples and believers of every time and place, we might behold the great mystery of the resurrection and proclaim with one heart and voice:

Christ is risen! Christ is risen! Christ is risen!

Let every knee bow and every voice ring out in awe and wonder, for death is no more.

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn of Praise 232 – *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

* Call to Confession

God is truly our salvation. We will trust and not be afraid. No matter what sins or burdens we carry today, we can call on the name of Christ to heal us and make us whole.

* Prayer of Confession – (*unison*)

God of the past, present, and future, as we await the dawn of your resurrection we look back on who we have been as your people. We have not always followed you. We have disobeyed you, doing the opposite of what you desire. Now we seek your help as we imagine who we could be moving forward. Forgive us, and guide us back to you, as you have done time and time again. Shower us with salvation and set us free, that we might live Christlike lives and share the good news of your grace. (time for silent confession)

* Declaration of Forgiveness (*responsive*)

Beloved, know this: just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. **We have died with Christ; therefore, we will live with him. Thanks be to God!**

* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri*

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen, amen.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Tommy Suttle

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, send us your Spirit to guide us into the truth, so that we may know and trust the good news of the gospel, and look with hope and joy for the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Jeremiah 31:1-6

pew Bible pg. 641

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *This is the Day*

Dan Forrest

This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it. (repeat)

The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, He has become my salvation.

The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, You are my God, I will exalt you.

You are my God; I will exalt you. (repeat)

Second Reading – Matthew 28:1-10

pew Bible pg. 811

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Go and Tell*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* Communion Hymn 238 – *Thine is the Glory*

Invitation to Offering

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world, let us offer the gifts of our lives.

Offertory – *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

Wayne L. Wold

THE EUCHARIST

The Invitation to the Lord's Table (*responsive*)

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The Great Thanksgiving (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God... ... joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is Jesus Christ... .. we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit... .. we bless you, God of glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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 Communion

Prayer After Communion (*unison*)

Thank you, O God, for giving us communion with our risen and glorious Lord. Now send us out to be a sign of the new life that has come into the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

* Hymn of Consecration 268 – *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

* Choral Benediction

* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

May the love of the holy triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—abide with you forever. **Alleluia!**

Now go forth in Jesus' name, remembering his new commandment to love one another, just as he has loved us. **Amen.**

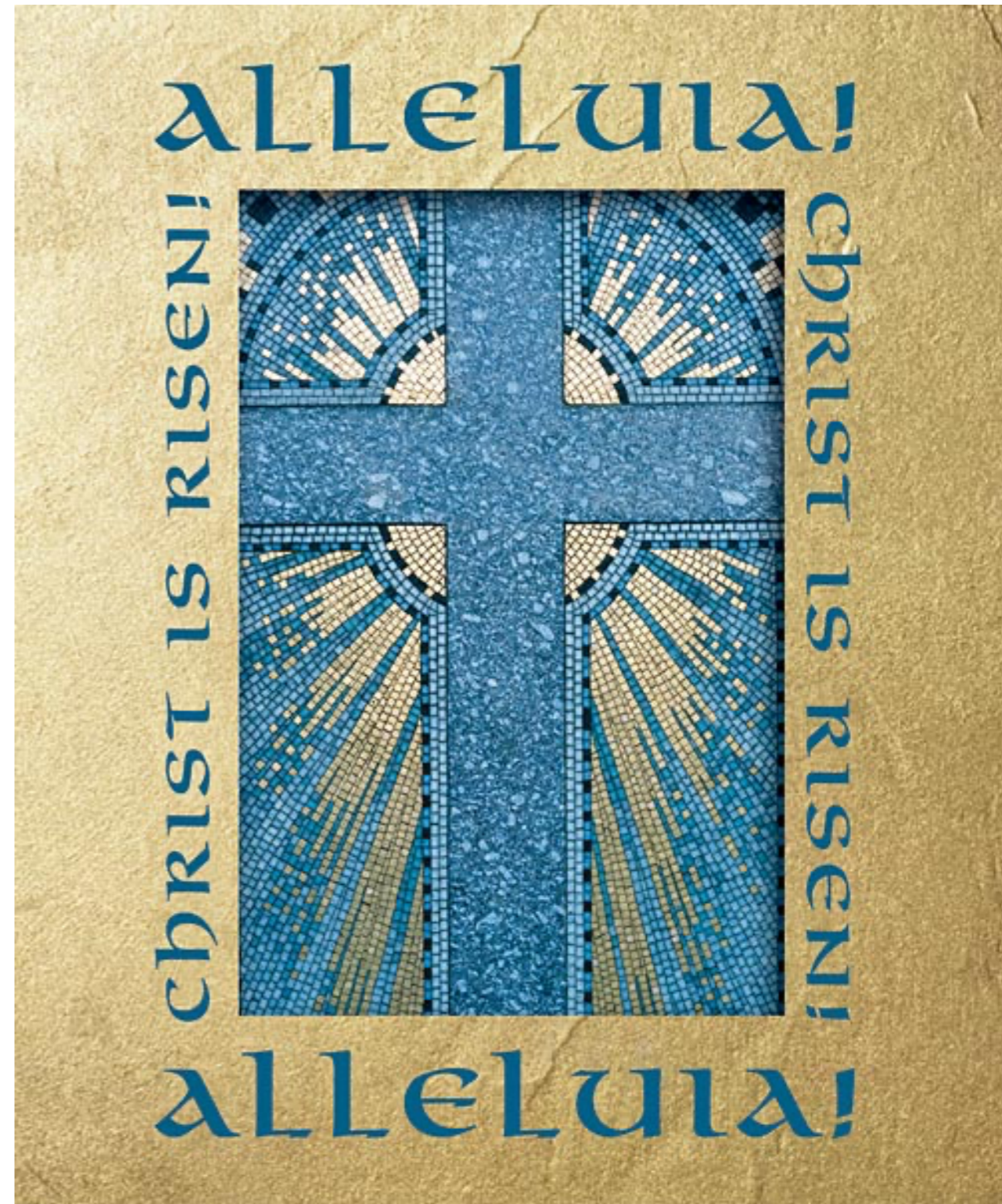
* Postlude – *Symphony V: Toccata*

Charles-Marie Widor



* Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**.

Today's liturgy is in part adapted from the Call to Worship website, a resource created the PCUSA's Office of Theology and Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(* new added prayers)

Janet Baldwin – family issues

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

Dutchie Bryant – recovering from fall

Larry & Margaret Burge of Poplarville, friend of Michael Yore – Larry has cancer

Laura Pearce Cureton, Nancy Johnson's goddaughter – nerve block therapy continues

Deidra Dickenson, Kathy Cain's sister – onset dementia

Cathy Dudley – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Bill and Louise Edwards, friends of Charles Brown – strength and endurance

Erica Gilmore, friend of Janet Baldwin – family issues

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Lee Graham, Pam Love's son-in-law – health issues

Jim Harris, Dixie Coats' brother-in-law's father – in hospital with serious health issues

Mckenna Hawkins, daughter of Michael Yore's friend – cancer

Charles "Rocky" Hartfield, friend of Pam Love – health issues

Peggy Henry, Karen Reidenbach's sister – continued strength through addiction recovery

Charlotte Hill

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

B.J. Lambert

Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia

Anita Murphy, friend of Mary Cromartie – lung cancer

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

Renee Parker, friend of Ruthie Davis – macular degeneration

Carolyn Mitchell Pintard, Bill & Betty Mitchell's daughter – grave health issues

Shannon Love Roberson, daughter of Pam Love – broken shoulder

Laura Todd, Grayson Rayborn's cousin – multiple health issues

Louise Traxler, Karen Reidenbach's mom – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Jerry Spann, friend of Ruthie Davis – cancer

Korie Turner, friend of Ruthie Davis – prayers for courage

Ella Young, sister of Janet Baldwin – struggling with dementia

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

There will be a memorial service for Peggy and Bill Langnecker, on April 17, at 11 a.m. at Poplarville First United Methodist Church.



Greeting and Announcements

Welcome to Westminster! We're very glad to see you in worship. We hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us. Please silence cell phones during the worship hour.

The April/May Today devotionals (large and small print) are on the narthex cabinet.

The **Youth** will not meet today.

The office will be closed Monday, April 6.

OFFICE CLOSED

PW Coordinating Team will meet Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Brown Bag Bible Study will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m.

No Wednesday night supper or activity.

Chancel Choir will meet at 6:30 on Wednesday.

Men of the Church will meet Thursday at 7 a.m. at Loblolly Bakery.

The Session will meet April 12 at 11:35 a.m. and the **Deacons** will meet April 19.

Giving to **One Great Hour of Sharing** enables the Presbyterian Hunger Program to help transform lives and enrich communities. See envelope and brochure in today's bulletin.



To donate to WPC online, scan the QR code and follow the instructions.

If you need something **notarized**, contact Martha in the office. No charge for members.

There is a box on the narthex cabinet labeled glasses for your **donated glasses**. These will be taken to the Lion's Club.

The **furniture warehouse** is in need of donations. Call the office if you have items to donate and we will schedule a pickup.

We are **collecting clothes** (women and children) for the domestic abuse shelter. Call Ann Johnson (601-268-6632) to schedule a drop-off time.



***The Easter lilies
are placed in
our sanctuary this morning to the glory of God.***

In loving memory of

Yetta and Jerry Alexander given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Susan Larsen Boerwinkle given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Bill and Margaret Boyd given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Janet Burke given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Mrs. "Monkey" Kimes Burns given by J.T. & Nancy Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. W.P. Cook given by J. T. & Nancy Johnson
W. L. Cook II given by J. T. & Nancy Johnson
A. D. and Helen Cromartie given by Mary Cromartie
Dr. Dean Cromartie given by Mary Cromartie
Dr. Dean Cromartie given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Calvin Crotwell given by Miriam Crotwell
Nell and Bill Dishong given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Sam Dossett given by Pam Dossett
Jim and Dot Eastburn given by Sarah Nobles and Mary K. Edwards
Chip Edmonson given by the Chad Edmonson family
Tom and Fran Estes given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Eugene and Estella Fair given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Cowen and Florence Gooch given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
David and Florence Gruchy given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Frank Hagan given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Hallie Jeanne Herring given by given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Roy and Sarah Hogrefe given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Patrick and Cora Jeffery given by Mary Cromartie
Mr. and Mrs. Pope Johnson given by J. T. & Nancy Johnson
Harweda and Jack Johnson given by the Chad Edmonson family
Richard Kelly given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Ed and Elizabeth Larsen given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Sandra Little given by Martha & Dan Davis

Dorothy and Mark McLarnan given by Carolyn McLarnan
Ruth McLarnan given by Carolyn McLarnan
Dr. Keith McLarnan given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Cindy Nobles given by Butch and Sarah Nobles, and Mary K. Edwards
Debbie Nobles given by Butch Nobles

Herbert Ray and Betty Nobles given by Butch and Sarah Nobles, and Mary K. Edwards
Catherine and F. Ogden Parker given by the Chad Edmonson family
Richard Potin given by Sharon Potin
Richard Potin given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Faren Edward Raborn given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Georgia and Grayson Rayborn, Sr. given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Terry Rayborn given by Jane & Grayson Rayborn
Kem Reid given by the Ryan, Cassie, and Liv Reid
David and Mary Reid given by Carolyn McLarnan
David and James Reid given by Carolyn McLarnan
Dolores Seale given by Pam Dossett
Margaret Suttle given by Sarah Suttle
Jerold (Jerry) Waltman given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe



In honor of

Charles Brown given by Sharon Potin
Dutchie and Franklin Bryant given by Sharon Potin
Our parents given by the Christopher Crotwell family
Christopher and Alice Crotwell given by Miriam Crotwell
Miriam Steele Crotwell King given by Alice and Christopher Crotwell
Susan Stivers Crotwell given by Alice and Christopher Crotwell
Kathryn Cummings given by Sharon Potin
Linda Edmonson given by the Chad Edmonson family
Mary Ann and Jim Parker given by the Chad Edmonson family
Catherine Sampson given by Sharon Potin
Ann Johnson given by Martha Ann & Charles Hogrefe
Ann Johnson given by Sharon Potin
The staff at Westminster given by Iris Easterling