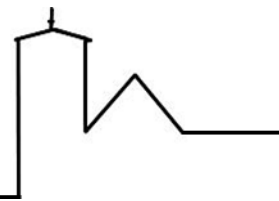


3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

Alleluyas

Simon Preston

**At his feet the six-winged Seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya, Lord most high.** (Liturgy of St. James)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The people of God are made for worship:
to sing, praise, laugh, and dance.

**The people of God were created for God's presence:
for pleasure and praise, for joy and song.**

Come, holy people, God's called disciples:
Gather for worship, come from all places!

**We have come into God's presence, gathered together,
We have come to honor and enjoy God forever.**

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN 451

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Lasst Uns Erfre

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Jesus, sometimes we are so busy talking with each other that we fail to find you beside us. We walk on, so focused on our questions that we do not create the silent spaces that would allow you to speak with us and guide our journey.

As we observe our lives and the world around us, we sometimes hesitate to share our true questions, doubts, and fears. We keep them within us in troubled silence. Stay with us, Jesus. Reach out to us and invite us to pause and meet with you, we pray. We call your name, O Christ, and hope to find you here in our community of vulnerable faith. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

John Weaver

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA HYMN 567

Glory to the Father

John Weaver

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 51:1-5,

*PSALM 116 Hymn 228 O Thou, My Soul, Return in Peace *Martyrdom*

EPISTLE: 1 Peter 1:17, 21

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-21

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: **Rev. Tim Mitchell**

HYMN 362 **I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry** *African-American spiritual*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*UNISON*)

**We believe in God,
sovereign in grace and love,
maker of all things.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
the eternal Word of God,
the firstborn of a new creation.**

**We believe in God's eternal Spirit,
pledge and foretaste of the future,
given that we may not lose the way,
who has endowed us with a diversity of gifts.**

**We are a pilgrim people
on the way to the promised goal.**

**On this way,
we are called to live and work within the faith and unity
of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**In this unity,
we offer our worship, witness and service
and receive one another in love and joy.**

**We are being led to the free obedience
of the children of God,
and so we look with yearning and hope
to the final reconciliation of humanity with God,
and the renewal of all creation.**

Alleluia. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC**Christ the Lord is Ris'n Again!***Richard Shephard*

Christ the Lord is ris'n again! Christ hath broken ev'ry chain!
Hark, angelic voices cry, Singing evermore on high, Alleluia! Alleluia!

He who gave for us his life, Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today! We too sing for joy and say Alleluia, alleluia!

He who bore all pain and loss Comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high, Pleads for us, and hears our cry. Alleluia, alleluia!

He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, today your people feed;
Take our sins and guilt away, Let us sing by night and day, Alleluia, alleluia!

**SEALING THE WORD****INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS**

In your mercy... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*singing together, Hymn 571*)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

CARRYING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD***HYMN 495****We Know That Christ is Raised***Engelburg***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE****Lasst Uns Erfreuen/Easter Song
A Trumpet Tune***Rebecca Groom Te Velde*

Leading in worship today:

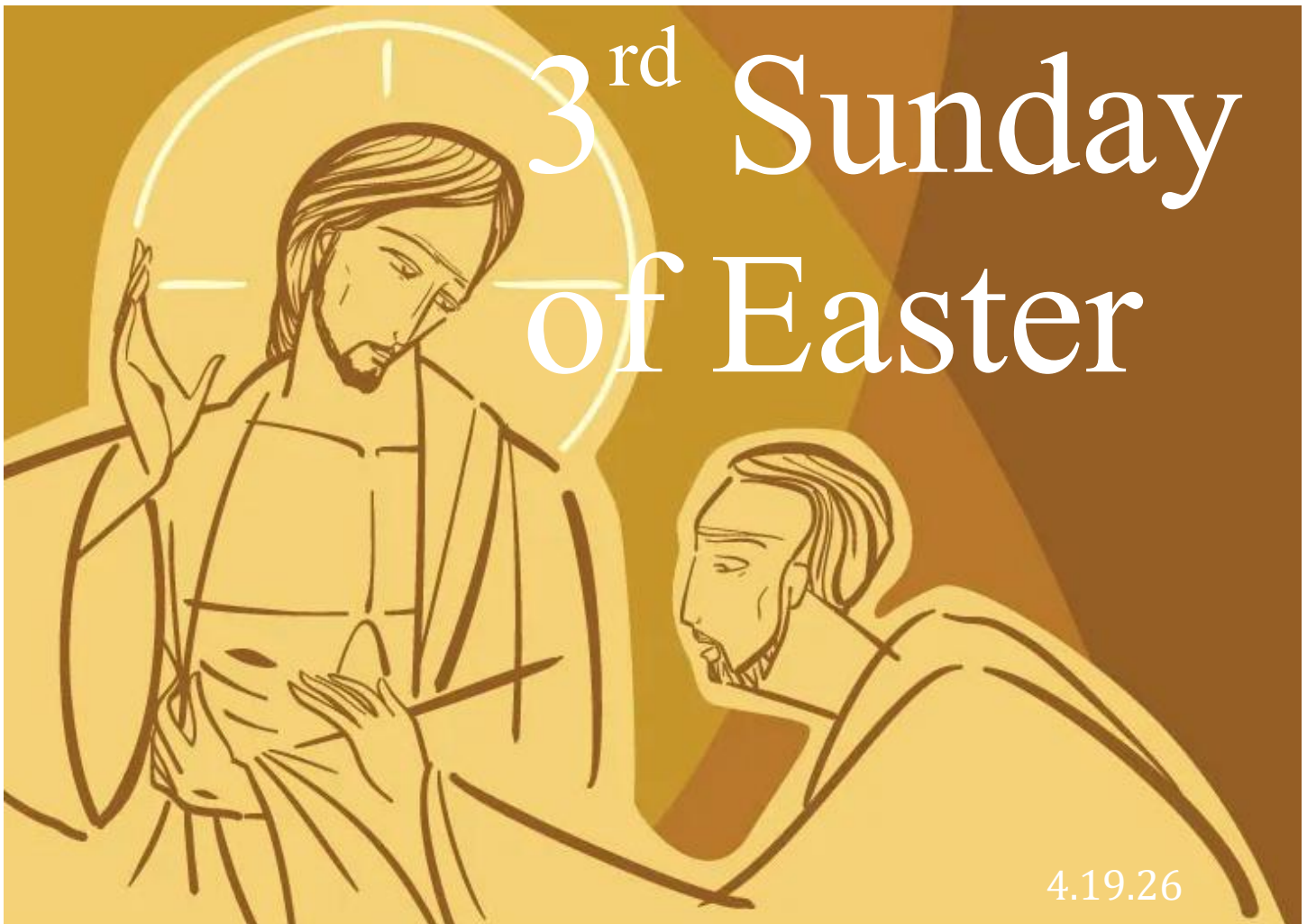
Rev. Tim Mitchell

Dr. Polly Brecht, Organist-Choirmaster

J. Douglas McQueen, tenor · Kate Kortemeier, alto

David Kortemeier, bass · Dan Stanley, tenor

Rebekah Dentino, soprano



Open Mind Open Hands Open Heart

Westminster Presbyterian Church · 1420 W. Moss Ave., Peoria, IL 61606

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