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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Order of Service   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | April 18th, 2021 – 10:30am Springfield Presbyterian Church Order of Worship Second Sunday After Easter   Announcements   Lighting the Christ Candle Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim: **People: Christ is the Light of the world and center of our lives.**   Gathering of the People Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!** [Greetings and Announcements]  Call to Worship  Leader: The women whispered as they left the tomb, **People:** **“Alleluia! Jesus is risen!”** Leader: They insisted from outside the Upper Room,  **People: “Alleluia! Jesus is risen!”** Leader: We join their hymn and sing, **People: Alleluia! Jesus is risen indeed.**   Call to Confession  Beloved, Jesus calls us to be courageous in the face of uncertainty. He calls us to keep working alongside him even if we would rather close ourselves behind the safety of heavy doors. Today, our practice of confession, of telling the truth about ourselves, will be done in images or words of our own making.   \* Hymn O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing   Practice of Confession Take your paper (or screen) and take a couple minutes to draw or write in response to one of these questions:  When you are afraid or overwhelmed, how do you react?  What are you being called to do that makes you nervous or afraid?    Silent Prayers of Confession   Response: Breathe On Me, Breath of God   Words of Assurance (responsive) Leader: Be sure of this beloved: God bears with us through everything. Through our worst moments, through our fear, through our hesitancy to do what God has called us to do. **People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**  The Peace Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)   The Proclamation of the Word   Prayer of Illumination   Loving God, we do not always find it easy to recognize your Word alive within us. Reveal yourself unto us and set our hearts on knowing your Word in a new and powerful way. Amen.  Scripture Lessons        Assurance Be sure of this beloved: God bears with us through everything. Through our worst moments, through our fear, through our hesitancy to do what God has called us to do. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. Alleluia! Thanks be to God.    OT Reading: Psalm 133 The Blessedness of Unity . **1**How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! **2**It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. **3**It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.   NT Reading: John 20:18-31  **18**Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her. **19**When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **20**After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21**Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” **22**When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”  **24**But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25**So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” **26**A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **27**Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” **28**Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” **29**Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” **30**Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. **31**But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,[[c](https://gmail.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f1606ba25f61bd2fff7873030&id=1769a144b3&e=ea8fc2a60a)] the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.  Sermon The Stairwell Gospel – McKenna Lewellen  The Response to the Word   \* Hymn     Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen (¡Aleluya! Cristo resucitó)  Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer  “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”** And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray…  **Our Father,** **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven and 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**   Hymn     Now the Green Blade Rises   Benediction **May the God who welcomes our questioning and certainty, be with you this day and forevermore. Amen.** | | | | |