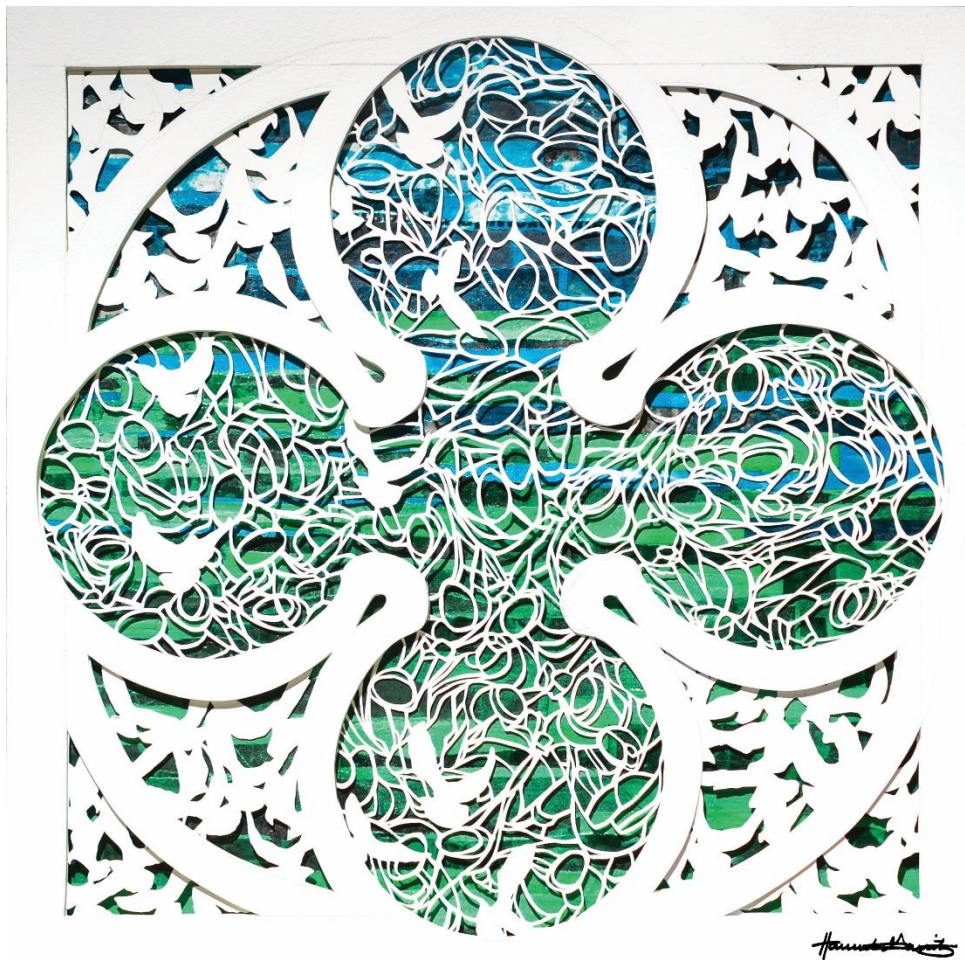


Easter Worship

April 5, 2026

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen

***Tell Me Something GOOD:
The Good News is ... *alive in the world.****



Hannah Garrity
Meet Me in Galilee

Opening Sentences

- Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Please rise in body or in spirit.

The community has gathered.

We have come to hear the good news.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

The good news is dancing! The good news is on the loose!

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Jesus Christ has risen!

He has risen indeed! Alleluia!

Now is the time for worship.

Together, we will worship our Risen Lord.

Hymn Jesus Christ is Risen Today (v. 1 and 4 in English and Spanish) GG #232

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

El Señor resucitó, Aleluya!
Muerte y tumba ya venció. Aleluya!
Con su fuerza y su virtud Aleluya!
cautivó la esclavitud. Aleluya!

Cristo, nuestro Salvador, Aleluya!
de la muerte es triunfador. Aleluya!
En El hemos de confiar. Aleluya!
Cantaremos sin cesar. Aleluya!



Responsive Prayer for Easter

O Christ, in your resurrection,
the heavens and the earth rejoice. Alleluia!

By your resurrection, you broke open the gates of hell,
and destroyed sin and death.

Keep us victorious over sin.

By your resurrection, you raised the dead,
and brought us from death to life.

Guide us in the way of eternal life.

By your resurrection, you confounded your guards and executioners,
and filled the disciples with joy.

Give us joy in your service.

By your resurrection, you proclaimed good news to the women and apostles,
and brought salvation to the whole world.

Direct our lives as your new creation.

God of mercy,
we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.
From the waters of death you raise us with him
and renew your gift of life within us.

Increase in our minds and hearts
the risen life we share with Christ,
and help us to grow as your people
toward the fullness of eternal life with you,
through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord be with you all. / **And also with you.**

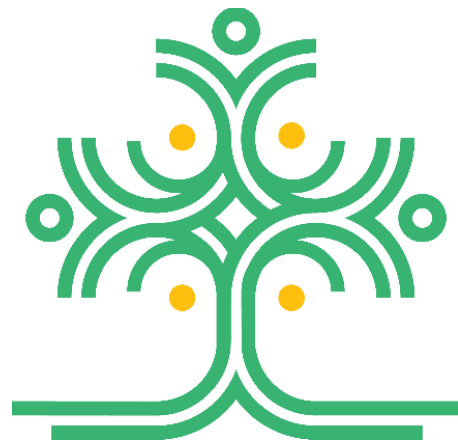
Life of the Church

Time with the Younger Church

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One,
all over the world, people are gathering
to hear the same good-news story.
All over the world, people are gathering
to hear how death has lost its sting.
All over the world, people are gathering together,
praying for a glimpse of you.
So like our neighbors all over the world,
we pray: be here with us today.
Speak to us.
Soften the calloused parts of our hearts
until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more.
With eagerness and hope, we run toward the tomb.
We sing alleluia.
We bow our heads.
We listen for your Word to us.
Amen.

Anthem



Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:1-10: **The Resurrection of Jesus**

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

Sermon

The Good News is Alive in the World

Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of 1967

**Life in Christ is life eternal.
The resurrection of Jesus is the sign
that God will consummate the work
of creation and reconciliation beyond death,
and bring to fulfillment
the new life begun in Christ. 9.26)**



Hymn

Christ is Alive! (v. 1-2, 5)

GG #246

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.
Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Invitation to the Offering

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
In gratitude, let us offer our hearts
and the fruit of our labor to God's service.
This morning, in addition to our regular tithes and offerings,
we are receiving gifts
to the PC(USA) One Great Hour of Sharing special offering,
and to the church's Power of Hope fund,
which assists members of our faith community.

Offertory

Act of Dedication Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!, v. 2 GG #248

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

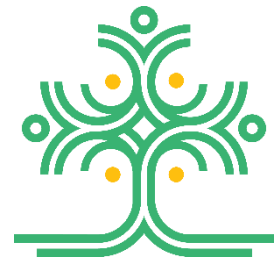
Offertory Prayer

Almighty God, by your grace,
accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives
in union with our risen Lord
who lives and reigns with you forever.
Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

On Easter morning,
the women went looking for Jesus.
The angel said he was not in the tomb,
so they ran, afraid, yet filled with joy.
They sought after him.
They hurried away from the tomb, looking for their risen Christ.
And in their seeking, the text tells us:
"Suddenly, Jesus met them."
Jesus met the women in their seeking.
Jesus met them in their moment of fear and grief.
Jesus met them when they felt lost.
Jesus met them and provided hope.



Friends, if, like the women, you are seeking Christ,
if you have known grief or fear,
if you have ever felt lost, or if you are in need of some hope,
then come to this Table.

All are welcome here.

For, just as Jesus met the women in their seeking,
Jesus meets us here and leads us into new life.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Christ is risen! / **Christ is risen indeed.**

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

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

Glorious God, we give you thanks and praise,
for on this day creation sings good news:

Christ is risen from the dead!

He has burst forth from the tomb

to break the tangles of despair and death.

Love is come again.

Therefore we praise you,

joining our voices to the eternal chorus of rejoicing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power , Giver of life,

heaven and earth declare your splendor.

Praise, glory, and love are yours.

All-embracing God,

we give thanks for Jesus,

the risen Lord of life,

who rose victorious from the grave

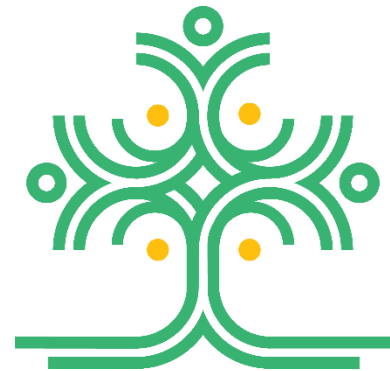
and made the whole creation new.

He broke bread with sinners,

fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed;

then he poured out his life in death that we might live in love.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.



Recalling his life, death, and glorious resurrection,
we offer you these gifts of bread and wine,
and our lives in thanks and praise.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us
the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Breathe your Spirit upon the whole earth,
that we may proclaim good news to all the world
and rise together as children of your new creation.

Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God,
where death and pain are no more
and you dwell with us forever.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you eternally in songs of pure unbounded praise.

Amen.

Let us pray together as Christ has taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Sharing Bread and Cup

The Sacrament is Carried Beyond the Sanctuary

We send you out with this bread and cup
to share the feast of the risen Lord.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.**

Prayer after Communion

Loving Christ, thank you for the bread that nourishes our bodies.

Thank you for the cup that quenches our thirst.

Thank you for this community, which reminds us who we are.

Thank you for this Table that brings us together.

Thank you for music that lifts our spirits.

Thank you for the promise that at this Table, and every table,
you will be with us.

May this holy meal nourish us to go out into the world
sharing your good, good news of life. Amen.

