

*First Presbyterian Church of Inverness*  
*March 31, 2024, Easter Sunday*



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**INTROIT**

*AMAZING LOVE*

CHANCEL CHOIR

**LITANY OF EASTER**

This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:  
**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.  
**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.  
**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

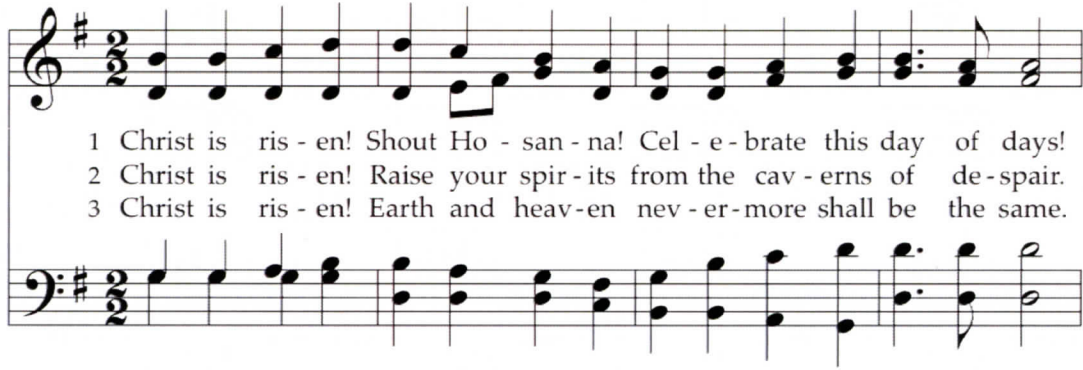
At last he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim this good news to the world.  
**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

## OPENING PRAYER

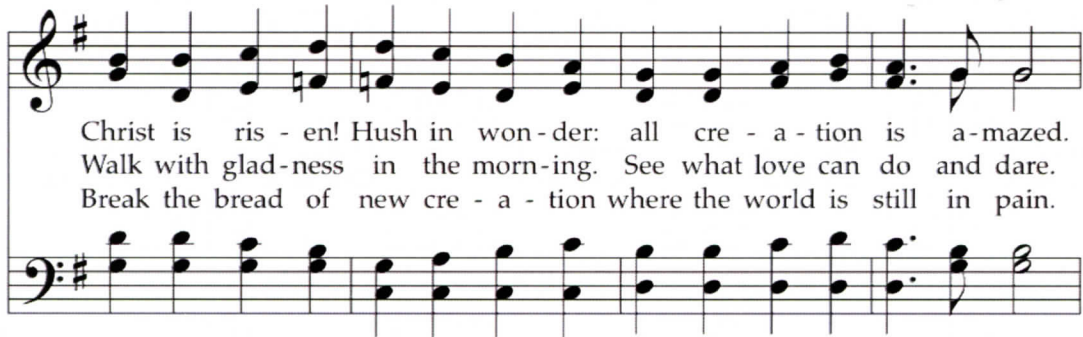
O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

\*HYMN#248

## CHRIST IS RISEN! SHOUT HOSANNA!



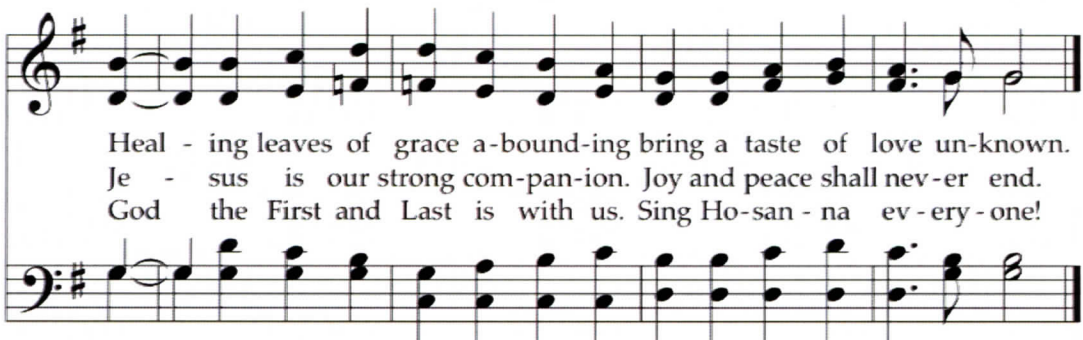
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.  
3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.  
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.  
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

**\*CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**O God, you raised Christ from the tomb and shattered the powers of sin and evil. Raise us from the tombs of our sin, O Lord, and bring us to new life in you. You bring us good news of Easter joy. Forgive us when we cannot hear it. You send us out to share your love. Forgive us when we cannot carry it. You cast a vision for peace and justice. Forgive us when we cannot imagine it. Forgive us when we stand in its way. For you are the God of the empty tomb, the one who makes all things new. (silent confession) Let all God's children say, Amen.**

**\*SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

**MAY THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU. AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**By your grace, O God, raise us from death to life.**

**ANTHEM**

***ALLELUIA No. 1***

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

**ACTS 10:34-43**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

**MARK 16:1-8**

**SERMON**

**EASTER GLORY**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**TRADITIONAL APOSTLES' CREED**

**I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world— giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN #246

CHRIST IS ALIVE!

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE

### **Church Staff and Contact Information**

**Church Office 352-637-0770, [fpcinvoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fpcinvoffice@gmail.com)**

Lou Ellen Hartley, Pastor – [revhartley1000@gmail.com](mailto:revhartley1000@gmail.com)

Lori Wolford, Dir. of Outreach & Christian Education, [dcelori.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:dcelori.fpc@gmail.com)

Lesa Shelton, Music Director

Marina Veiler, Organist

Danny Birstler, Sound Booth Coordinator

Vicki Oorbeck, Child Care Attendant

Laura Morrow, Office Administrator

Bruce Cook, Prayer Warrior

Danny Sullivan, Facilities Manager

Gary Oorbeck, Grounds |Maintenance |Security

Treasurer – [fpcinvFinance@gmail.com](mailto:fpcinvFinance@gmail.com)

### **Church Office Hours**

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Closed on Friday

### **Our Elders**

Class of 2024: Caryl Birstler (clerk), Alicia Downing, George Schumacher, Carolyn Smith

Class of 2025: Barbara Dee Cawley, Linda Cridland, Jerry Reynolds, Leah Robinson

Class of 2026: Barbara Caudill, Bruce Cook, Lesa Shelton, John Morrison

### **Our Deacons**

Class of 2024: Wilma Abel, Sandy Boyett, Ron Shafer, Mary Beth Smith

Class of 2025: Toni Scott, Phoebe Schumacher, Amanda Morrison

Class of 2026: Ray Birstler, Nancy Harris, Adele Wardrup

### **WORSHIP FLOWERS**

“In loving memory of my husband, Trevor Campbell,” worship flowers are given today  
by Nora Campbell

### **Nursery and Sunday School for All Ages**

**Infants and Pre-K**

CE Hall Room 2

Ms. Vicki

**Elementary (K-5)**

CE Hall Room 4

Ms. Mary Beth

**Secondary (6-12)**

CE Hall, Room 5

Ms. Phoebe and Mr. Ron

**Men’s Bible Study**

Parlor

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott

**Adults**

Conference Room

Pastor Hartley

## REMINDER

**The church will be closed tomorrow, April 1<sup>st</sup>**, to allow our staff a well earned day of recovery from additional Holy Week and Easter activities and services. We will be on duty again on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> with our regular meetings, Prayer Gathering and Choir Rehearsal.

## CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On **April 14, 2024**, we will have a Called Congregational Meeting to vote on Donna Dublo's nomination as a Deacon. The meeting will be at **9:45 AM – before worship**.

## FELLOWSHIP TIME

The Congregational Life Committee invites enthusiastic participants to join us! We plan dinners, events, and activities for our church family, at least once a month. Many hands make light work, and we need more hands! If you have a passion for cooking, baking, or washing up (including pots and pans!), consider joining the Congregational Life Team.

## SPECIAL THURSDAYS

After a Holy Week pause, the Thursday Bible study group will meet on **April 4th in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m.** The Book of Ephesians is the emphasis – very timely for today's church family. Bring your Bible, come join us and remember those cookies and goodies as we enjoy fellowship!

## SINGLES EATING TOGETHER

Sign up at the Sign-Up Station for dinner at La Pergola (2780 N Florida Ave, Hernando, Florida 34442) on **April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m.**

## WORSHIP FLOWERS

We have dates available on **April 21st and 28th** if you would like purchase flowers for the sanctuary. You may honor a loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or praise God for the beauty that He has given us. Place your order at the Ask-Me-Desk and then drop a check for \$37.00 into the offering plate. Please write "Worship Flowers" on the memo line of your check. Your order includes two arrangements, which you may take home after the service, or leave at the church so a Deacon may deliver the arrangements to one of our homebound members.

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

All men are invited to attend the Men's Fellowship Breakfast on **Wednesday, April 3, at 8:30 a.m. in the Gathering Place.**

## OUR TREE OF LIFE

Our beautiful Tree of Life, displayed on the wall in our narthex, is composed of many leaves honoring loved ones, friends and family. The fund was established to earmark donations for unexpected repairs to our church facilities and the repair or replacement of equipment (for example, an air conditioner).

What has brought joy to your life? Perhaps a group that you belong to, such as: a barbership quartet; a quilting bee; a car club; a women's circle; or your hobby club? Perhaps you have a pet who means the world to you. Or, you experienced a life-changing event: your 25th anniversary, the birth of your child or grandchild, or graduating from your alma mater. These leaves are a beautiful, tangible, and lasting way to recognize the joys in our lives.

Members or friends of the church may purchase a leaf for \$300, which may be paid in \$100 increments. Upon receipt of the total amount, the leaf will be engraved with the sentiment of the donor's choice and placed on the tree.

To order a leaf and commemorate the joys of your life, complete the *Tree of Life Leaf Request Form* (in the narthex) and mail it, with your check to the church office. If you have questions, please call or email the church office at [fpcinoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fpcinoffice@gmail.com).

## DID YOU SEE?

The Citrus County Chronicle had a special article on March 24 concerning our church hosting the annual Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County volunteer recognition event. Special note was the fact that our church family and friends have donated a washer and dryer to each new Habitat for Humanity home, dedicated in Citrus County, since 2008 with Home #37. Just this past Thursday, the Taylor family celebrated the dedication of Home #257 in Citrus Springs. That makes 220 families that the Lord has blessed with a well-equipped laundry room. Thank you, church family, for this hometown mission!

## DEACON NEWS

This year, Easter will be a bit happier for those homebound members of our congregation. The Deacons got together and assembled bags containing a cross, a card, and a booklet. A beautiful hyacinth was presented with the bags. A special thanks to Susie Smith, who hand-made the lovely Easter cards. Thanks also to the Deacons who made the joyful deliveries! Happy Easter to you all! Sandy Boyette for the Board of Deacons

## GRIEF SUPPORT

The Grief Support Group will meet on **Monday, April 8, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor.**

## THIS WEEK AT FPC

**Sunday, March 31, 2024**

*Easter*

7:00 Sunrise Service

10:00 Worship Service & Children's  
Sunday School

**Monday, April 1, 2024**

Church Closed

**Tuesday, April 2, 2024**

10:00 Prayer Gathering – Parlor

11:00 Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

**Wednesday, April 3, 2024**

\*8:30 Blessings

9:00 Staff Meeting

4:30 SET – La Pergola, Hernando, FL

**Thursday, April 4, 2024**

\*8:30 Blessings

10:00 Bible Study – Fellowship Hall

7:00 Theology & Wine – Angelo's Pizza

**Friday, April 5, 2024**

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

*Communion Sunday with Baptism*

9:00 Sunday School

9:00 Men's Bible Discussion

10:00 Worship Service

6:00 Anchored

\*Outside Groups

A SPECIAL

# Thank You

TO THOSE SERVING TODAY

## Ushers

*Nancy & Ben Harris*

*Jerry Reynolds*

## Ask Me Desk

*Caryl Birstler*

*Sandy Boyette*

