

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 133

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,
when the community lives together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:
life forevermore.
Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Living God, for whom no door is closed, no heart is locked, draw us beyond our doubts, till we see your Christ and touch his wounds where they bleed in others. This we ask through Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN # 115

ST. KEVIN

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*RESPONSE

GOODNESS IS STRONGER

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word, that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35 (p. 122, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1-2:2 (p. 238, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 20:19-31 (p. 114, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN #106

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen

J. Carter

*DOXOLOGY

**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!**

EASTER HYMN

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN #104

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 8, 2018
Presbyterian Church in Needham