

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are comfortable when the chimes ring. You are also invited to stand in body or spirit where marked with an asterisk ().*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we are God's children now
when Christ is revealed, we will be like him.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain.
Blessing and honor and glory to God!
Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN # 324

Open My Eyes That I May See

OPEN MY EYES

*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.

*CONGREGATIONAL 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, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-20 (p. 127, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 30: Hymn #181

Come Sing to God

ELLACOMBE

GOSPEL READING: John 21:1-19 (p. 115, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Second Chances

*HYMN # 343

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

*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

My Song of Praise

N. Price and D. Besig

*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 # 371

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 2019
Presbyterian Church in Needham