

**Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – April 12, 2020**  
**Easter Sunday**  
**Join us on You Tube!**

**Greeting**

**Call to Worship** [*responsive*]

Come, give thanks that God is good.

**Let us celebrate today!**

Come, give thanks that Jesus is risen.

**Let us celebrate today!**

Come, give thanks that we are alive.

**Let us celebrate today!**

Glory to God.

**Jesus is risen. Alleluia!**

Glory to God.

**The tomb is empty.**

Glory to God.

**God is stronger than death.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Call to Confession**

Even the obstacle of death has been removed between us and God.

If death no longer stands in our way, we can be sure that our sin does not either.

Let us confess our sins, that they may be washed away by the mercy of our risen Lord.

Let us pray together.

**Prayer of Confession** [*together*]

Christ, we come to the empty tomb,

we see our own death,

we see our own emptiness.

**We remember how we have treated other people—  
family, friends, strangers and neighbors.**

Lord we come to your tomb,

we see a hungry world before us,

**the pain of starving children,**

**the guilt of war on our hands,**

**and we know that we share in injustice.**

Lord when we come to the empty tomb,  
we lay before you our pain,  
our emptiness and look to you for hope.

*[Silence for Personal Prayer]*

**Assurance of Pardon** *[responsive]*

People of God,  
do not dwell on your wounds any longer  
for Christ is risen to heal,  
he is risen to forgive;  
he is risen to change us all  
and to give the gift of new life.

**Christ is risen. The whole world is new.**

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**

## **We Listen to God's Word**

**Scripture Readings**

**Colossians 3:1-4**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**Mark 16:1-8**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Leader: This is the Witness to God's Word. **People: Thanks be to God.**

## We Respond to God's Grace

### Invitation to Generosity

#### Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
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,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## We Depart for Service

### \*Announcements

#### Passing the Peace

Greeting: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Response: "And also with you."

### \*Commission & Benediction

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon are adapted from the writing of Thom Shuman.