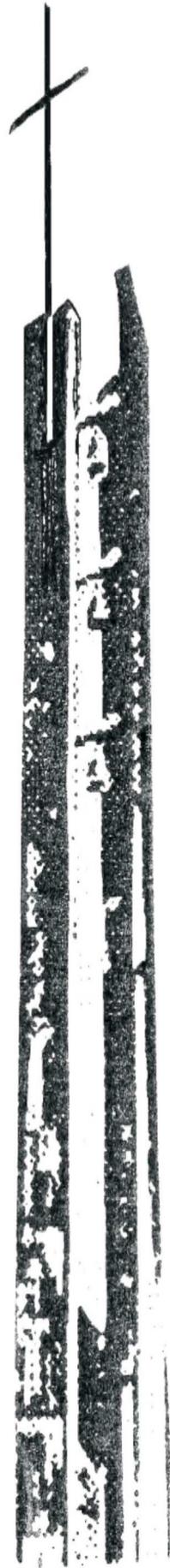


*First  
Baptist  
Church*

*April 1, 2018*

*He Is Risen!*



**The Body of Christ Gathers in Worship & Praise  
Sunday, April 1, 2018  
Easter Sunday  
Saying “Yes” to the Cross**

10:55: *Please take time to greet one another,  
warmly welcoming visitors in the name of Christ.*

Resurrection

To be raised up again

To be lifted up again

To rise up again...

Christ is arisen.

Christ is arisen indeed.

To believe these words is to believe that Life and the pure power of  
Love eventually, inevitably, triumph.

To believe these words is to believe that we too shall rise.

From every dry and thirsty desert in life, we too shall rise.

From every piercing and hurting and spitting, we too shall rise.

From every daytime dark when God seems far off, so far off, we too  
shall rise.

Death has lost its sting.

Death of body—lost its sting.

The many small deaths in a person’s life—lost their sting.

For Christ has risen. Christ is risen indeed. And we too shall rise.

Susan Palo Cherwien, *Crossings*

*Alleluia*

Chancel Choir  
Randall Thompson

**Rev. Kevin Wilson:**

The Lord is risen!

**Congregation:**

**The Lord is risen indeed!**

Procession of Flowers      *Allegro con Moto*      Granite City Ringers  
Jason Krug

Invocation      Rev. Wilson

Hymn 194      *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*      EASTER HYMN

Litany of Saying “Yes”      Rev. Meadows, Congregation

Leader: The Lenten symbols have been removed from the cross  
today. The stone has been rolled aside—the tomb is empty—death is  
swallowed up in victory! What we intended for evil, God

has transformed for good. Our lives have been redeemed. Because Jesus said “Yes” to the cross, we now live through the power of his resurrection.

**Congregation: Lord Jesus, we confess that with a crown of thorns we mocked your lordship. But you participate in our sufferings. By your stripes we are healed—we are reconciled to God. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.**

Leader: Lord Jesus, we confess that with nails we destroyed your hands, hands that touched the outcast, healed the sick and fed the hungry. But your resurrected hands now embrace even your condemners. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.

**Congregation: Lord Jesus, we confess that we used the whip to punish you for not fitting into our systems of might. But your patient, enduring love exposes our misuse of power. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.**

Leader: Lord Jesus, we confess that in our deadness we hung a sign above your head, mocking a kingdom we did not want. Yet our earthly kingdoms crumble, while your kingdom of life remains. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.

**Congregation: Lord Jesus, we confess that we sold your betrayal for earthly treasure we could not keep. But you have bought us with a price; you give us the treasure of life that cannot be taken away. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.**

Leader: Lord Jesus, we confess that with palm branches we worshiped you, hoping you would conquer your enemies. Yet you have conquered us with your self-emptying love. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.

**People: Lord Jesus, we confess that the cross embodies our sin, our violence, and our inability to make peace with you and with each other. But you have now made the cross an eternal reminder of your love, your mercy, and your ability to be our peace. Help us continue to say “Yes” to the cross, that we might be made alive in your resurrection.**

Leader: Let us pray together...

**Congregation: Almighty God, we have been reminded this Lent of the depth of our sin. We confess that all of the dark and violent symbols of Lent, including the cross, come from our hands. But you are the resurrected Lord. You transform**

**our instruments of destruction into images of your love. Beat our swords into plowshares; turn our spears into pruning hooks. Remove our hearts of stone and give us hearts of flesh. May our old lives be crucified with you. May our new lives be caught up in the power of your resurrection life. Amen.**

Hymn

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Offertory Prayer

Larry Blood

Offertory

*Christ Is Alive*

J.Wayne Kerr

Scripture	John 20:1-18 Pew Bible page 1290	Rev. Meadows
Anthem	<i>Wondrous Love</i>	Chancel Choir Setting by David Edmonds
Sermon		Rev. Meadows
Hymn	<i>Splendor and Honor</i>	SHADES MOUNTAIN

Benediction		Rev. Meadows
Postlude	<i>Fanfare</i>	Jacques Lemmens

We welcome the following musicians to our service today  
Blake McCraw, trumpet  
Caleb Cooke, trombone  
Matt Dowell, trombone  
Sarah McCraw, soprano  
Kelly Grooms, organ

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us in worship today. It is our sincere hope and prayer that you will know the saving presence, power, love and authority of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and that you will leave encouraged and spiritually refreshed.

\*\*\*\*\***BULLETIN BOARD**\*\*\*\*\*

**Remember to Pick Up Easter Lilies**

If you ordered an Easter lily, please remember to pick it up after worship service this today.

**Monday, April 2:** Church Office Closed  
**Wednesday, April 4:** No Evening Activities

**Ministry for Sunday:** Rev. Jay Meadows ; **Scripture:** John 20:1-18 ; **Sunday School Greeters:** Bob & Janice Demcio ; **Deacon Greeters:** Steve Dowell & Nancy Pyles ; **Babies:** Lucas & Mary Kate Brewer ; **Toddlers:** Maggie Nicholson & TBA ; **Preschoolers:** John & Candice Kerley ; **Kid's Korner:** None ; **Children's Sermon :** None ; **Sound:** Wes Parker, TBA

**The Week Ahead**

**SUNDAY, April 1** **Easter Sunday**

9:00am Prayer Time-Prayer Room  
9:15am Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am \*\*The Church at Worship & Praise  
**No Evening Activities**

**MONDAY, April 2**  
**Office Closed**

**TUESDAY, April 3**  
7:00am Baptist Men's Breakfast- Olympia

**WEDNESDAY, April 4**  
No Wednesday Meal/Evening Activities

**THURSDAY, April 5**  
5:30pm Feeding Friends Meal  
7:00pm \*Boy Scouts—Scout Hut

**SUNDAY, April 8**  
9:00am Prayer Time-Prayer Room  
9:15am Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am \*\*The Church at Worship & Praise  
4:00pm Children's Handbells  
4:45pm Youth Choir  
4:00pm Griefshare Class  
5:30pm Granite City Ringers  
5:45pm Youth Supper  
6:00pm Youth Group Family Time

\*Community Ministry \*\*Hearing Assists / Valet Parking available upon request. Wheelchair spaces are available in the sanctuary for the convenience of those who need to stay in their chairs.