

THE SERVICE of Worship

May 21, 2023
The Season of Easter
10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

We Gather Around the Word

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Voluntary”
Terry Metzger, Organist

Thomas Loud, Jr.

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Adapted from Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Eternal God, you have raised Christ to rule over the universe!

We sing your praise in awe and wonder.

Alleluia!

You have raised Christ to reign over all human history.

All is taken up in the grace and Christ.

Alleluia!

You have raised Christ to rule over our hearts and our lives.

**We bow in humility and gratitude,
and give our lives to serve in love and wonder.**

Alleluia!

*OPENING HYMN | “In Christ There is No East or West”

Glory to God 317

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

Adapted from Rev. Sharon Core

We confess, O God,

that too often we have our head in the clouds.

**We are more comfortable with dreaming of the world
as we wish it would be,**

instead of working with you to bring that wish to reality.

At times, we find it difficult to claim the power you have given us.

Surely you have others more capable to be your witnesses?

And so, we continue to gaze heavenwards.

Jolt us out of our complacency, O God.

Remind us to get a move on.

Remind us we have work to do with you.

Give us your energy, courage, and vision

to be your witnesses to the end of the earth.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

Adapted from Rev. Sharon Core

We are God's people

created, loved and forgiven.

The God of all grace has called us by name.

**God will restore, support,
strengthen and establish us.**

It is good news to celebrate.

We are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI | "Alleluia!"

Glory to God 587

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANS

Pastor Rosy

ANTHEM

"Be Thou My Vision"

Bob Chilcott

The Sanctuary Choir, Ralph Stannard, Director
Lauren Carter, Soloist; Terry Metzger, Pianist

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

NSRV N.T. Pg. 192

Christ is seated at God's right hand, above every earthly power.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 1:1-11

NRSV N.T. Pg. 118

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascends into heaven.

SERMON

Rev. Rosy Robson McCreary

We Respond to the Word

HYMN OF RESPONSE | “Christ, Whose Glories Fill the Skies”

Glory to God 662

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Responsively*

From A Declaration of Faith

We are certain that Jesus lives.

He lives as God with us, touching all of human life
with the presence of God.

He lives as one of us with God.

Because he shares our humanity
and has bound us to himself in love,
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.

We declare that Jesus is Lord.

His resurrection is a decisive victory
over the powers that deform and destroy human life.

His lordship is hidden.

The world appears to be dominated
by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule.

But his lordship is real.

**It demands our loyalty and sets us free
from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.**

**We maintain that ultimate sovereignty
now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life.**

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER | *Unison*

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“With a Voice of Singing”
The Sanctuary Choir, Ralph Stannard, Director
Terry Metzger, Organist

Martin Shaw

*DOXOLOGY | “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Glory to God 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*SENDING HYMN | “We Will Walk with God”

Glory to God 742

We will walk with God, my broth-ers; we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sis-ters; we will walk with God.

We will go re-joic-ing till the king-dom has come.

We will go re-joic-ing till the king-dom has come.

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“All Glory Be to God On High”
Terry Metzger, Organist

Johann Gottfried Walter

