

**J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church
McComb, Mississippi
The Service for the Lord's Day
Sunday, April 11, 2021 10:30 am
Second Sunday of Easter**

A Thought Before Worship

May the life of this community of faith be a sign of Christ's life within us so that others may come to believe the Lord is Risen indeed!

Welcome and Announcements

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

"Trusting Jesus Medley"

Ham

***Call to Worship**

We worship this morning in the continuing light of Easter.

The shadow of death is no match for God's love!

We join our voices with the disciple Thomas who said,

"My Lord and my God!"

Brothers and sisters, Christ is risen!

Christ, the Lord is risen indeed! Let us worship God!

***Prayer for the Day**

We give thanks for your presence among us here in this place today, O God. Open our minds; unlock our hearts; and enliven our faith so that we may welcome the Risen One among us and follow his call to serve in the world. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I

see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side I will not believe.” A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

A Call to Confession

If we claim we have no sin, we deceive only ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sin and cleanse us of all unrighteousness. Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

A Prayer of Confession

You have shown yourself to us, O God, by Word and Spirit, in signs and wonders, in flesh and blood in Jesus Christ, yet we still struggle to live and believe the Good News Jesus came to bring. Have mercy on us. Forgive us. Enter into our lives and cast out our fear so that we may come to trust you and have life in abundance in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Hear the Good News: We have an advocate with God—Jesus Christ, the righteous one—who offered his life in love to save the world from sin. This is the Good News of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Now may the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

**A Piano Interlude “Let us Break Bread Together”
(inspired by Mendelssohn’s “Consolation”)
*Jennifer Sanders, piano***

We Hear God's Word

A Prayer for Guidance as We Hear God's Word

A Reading from the Epistles: 1 John 1:1—2-2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous, and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Sermon

Get Real!

the Rev. Bob Phelps

***Affirmation of Faith**

This is the Good News which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are being saved if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sin 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 this 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. Thanks be to God. Amen.

****The Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end! Amen. Amen.***

Offertory Sentence: God is the source of all good gifts. Let us now bring our gifts in joyful response to the many gifts we have been given.

Offertory **“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”** **Hayes**

***Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below Praise him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to God's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is always right and our greatest joy to give God thanks and praise...

....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest....

....we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

....As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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 and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of God's People

A Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, as the Living Christ opened the Scriptures and made himself known to us in the breaking of the bread, we see and believe your Good News. Lead us now from this place, fed from your Table and filled with your Spirit, to walk with you all the days of our lives, and to proclaim

the glory of your Resurrection to all the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go In God's Name

***Benediction**

Now we know the blessing of the Lord, our God. Life in abundance and forevermore. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***Charge**

Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord!

***Postlude** **"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"** **Lind**

News from Our Community of Faith

Last Week's Record

Maundy Thursday Attendance (4-1)-----26
Good Friday Attendance (4-2)-----25
Easter Sunrise Attendance (4-4)-----16
Easter 10:30 Attendance-----87 here; 74 views on Facebook
Offering: \$5,676.59

Welcome to Worship!

We are happy to welcome all who worship with us in the sanctuary today. We also welcome those who join us online and in print. We are especially glad to welcome visitors. Please join us again soon

Session Meets Today

The Session will meet after worship today in the Ewell Martin Room. Please keep these who plan and direct the ministry of our congregation in these turbulent times in your prayers.

Welcome Back to Sunday School

We were happy to welcome Sunday School groups back to their regular meeting places and schedules this morning. If you have not been a regular participant in Sunday School, now is a good time to begin. We offer groups for all ages and a variety of studies.

Today's flowers are presented to the glory of God and in memory of his parents, Paul Wayne and Christine Hutchison by Wayne Hutchison.

