



J. J. WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024 * 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cassie Alston

Prelude

Easter Hymn

arr. Christian Morris

Call to Worship

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*Hymn No. 234

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

*Prayer of Adoration

Glory to you, O God: you have won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life. Glory to you, O Christ: for us and for our salvation you overcame death and opened the gate to everlasting life. Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth. Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Litany for Easter

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Mary, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim the good news to the world.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

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. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

By the grace of God, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. The rejected cornerstone has become your strength and your song. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

Word

Choral Anthem

In Christ Alone

arr. Mark Hayes

Prayer for Illumination

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

Scripture: *John 20:1-18*

Sermon

Called and Sent

Rev. Cassie Alston

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805 (Gloria Patri)

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

Ministry in Music

Arise, My Soul, Arise

arr. Dan Forrest

The Invitation to the Offering

With compassion for our needs, the Risen One stands beside us, calling our names. Let us, with that same mercy, bring forth tithes and offerings to relieve the suffering of the world and to proclaim far and wide the good news of resurrection life.

Offertory *I Have Seen Him* John Carter

***Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, you shower us with gifts so abundant, we cannot measure them all. You give us life itself and the power to befriend our companions in this world. Bless these gifts for the sake of those in need, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer Albert Hay Malotte

Sending

***Hymn No. 238** *Because He Lives* RESURRECTION

*Charge and Benediction

Go from here renewed and strong, knowing that the Lord is alive, almighty, and present. Look for the blessings that await you this week. Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who celebrate. Tell the story of hope. Now may the truth of the empty tomb – the astonishing reality of Jesus’ resurrection – keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God’s endless love surround you and guide you, this day and always. **Alleluia! Amen.**

Postlude *Easter Celebration Medley* arr. Gary Lanier

*Please stand as you are able.

****Announcements****

Welcome to Worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To our visitors, we offer a special hand of fellowship and invite you to join us again soon. Please fill out the blue card in your pew and place in the offering plate when passed.

Welcome to our Guest Musicians!

Dr. LaTannia Ellerbe is a native of the Southeastern United States, endeavors to share the love of Christ through music. She has performed in the United States, Singapore, Bermuda, and Cuba. Dr. Ellerbe, currently on faculty at Jackson State University, where she serves as Assistant Professor of Strings and conducts the String Ensemble. Dr. Ellerbe earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Minnesota under the guidance of Sally O’Reilly. She received her Master of Music from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and her Bachelor of Music from Vanderbilt University as a Chancellor’s Scholar.

Bridget Regan is a native of Magnolia. After graduating from McComb High School, she attended the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City and remained there for ten years. Bridget went on to earn a bachelors in psychology from the City University of New York and a masters in special education from Mississippi State. Bridget is currently a hospital schoolteacher at Children’s of Mississippi in Jackson.

Jeremy Threlfall resides in McComb with his wife Cleia. His love for singing started at the early age of 5 and has developed into a life of performing, composing, recording, filming, and even arranging – with a variety of audiences ranging from country to Broadway, opera to children, and inspirational.

Record from last Sunday *Attendance: 82* *Offering: 5,446.00*

This Week at J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Sunday, 3/31		Collection of food items for MICA
Wednesday,	7:15 AM	Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

Upcoming Worship Events

Sunday, 4/7	10:30 AM	Second Sunday of Easter (Communion)
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Sanctuary Flowers

The Easter lilies are given in honor, memory, and celebration of family members and friends. Please see the insert for names. Thanks be to God for the bonds of Christian love and eternal life in our risen Lord.

J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church
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 Church office open **Monday – Friday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**