



Erwin Presbyterian Church

Seventh Sunday of Easter * May 12, 2024 * 11:00 a.m.

105 N. Elm Ave., Erwin, TN 37650 * 423-743-3431*

erwinpresbyterianchurch.com

Prelude
Ethan Thomas, organist

A Song for Mother's Day

arr. Esther S. Higgins

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Introit

Worship Christ, the Risen King

Green Hymnbook #361

*** Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 1)**

Laurie Wieder

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked;

All: We delight in God's Word, we meditate on God day, and night.

Leader: Our worship grounds us in God, like trees planted by streams of water;

All: God helps us yield good fruit.

We do not wither when we spend time in God's presence.

***Hymn**

We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer

Red Hymnbook, #17

Call to Confession

Laurie Wieder

Leader: As this Easter season comes to a close, we turn again to God to confess our sins, the sins of our community and our society, to prepare ourselves to live in the redemption Christ offers.

Prayer of Confession

Laurie Wieder

All: Savior God, we invite you into our lives for a season, only to forget and neglect you once again. You beckon us, calling for our attention, but we are distracted and busy taking care of other priorities. Remind us, Holy God, that you are the source of our flourishing. You are the living water by which we have been planted. Forgive our neglect. Forgive our unfaithfulness. Focus us on you, your Word, and all that your Spirit provides.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Laurie Wieder

Leader: Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God.

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.

***The Peace**

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Pastor: Jesus said, “My peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.” May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Please take a moment to greet one another and share the peace of Christ.

First Scripture Reading-Luke 24:44-53

Laurie Wieder

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Anthem

More Like You, Lord, I Would Be

Prayer for Illumination

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Second Scripture Reading- Acts 1:1-11

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with

them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

During the Waiting Time

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Introduction

First, Trust in God

Second, Get Ready

Conclusion

***Declaration of Faith (The Nicene Creed)**

Laurie Wieder

Leader: Let's declare our faith.

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the People

The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

Ends with The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Offering

Invitation to the Offering

Laurie Wieder

Leader: With joy and gratitude for all we have been given, let us offer our gifts to God.

(may the ushers move forward and collect the offering)

Offertory Music

Blessed Quietness

arr. Franklin Ritter

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Red Hymnbook, #544
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication** Laurie Wieder
Leader: O God, maker and provider, you have blessed us with many gifts. Use us, and what we have gathered, to feed the world through your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

***Hymn** *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* Red Hymnbook #504

Recognition of Graduating High School Seniors Nicholas Chambers

***Benediction** The Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos

***Benediction Response** *Shalom*

**Shalom to you now, Shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your Shalom. Christ be your Shalom.**

Postlude *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* arr. Lani Smith
Ethan Thomas, organist

Notes:

**Responses with an asterisk indicates standing. Please stand as you are able.*

Sources for Worship Liturgy: The liturgy is based on *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

Welcome Visitors: Welcome! If you are visiting, please fill out one of the green visitor's cards from the pew and place it in the offering plate. We are glad you are here! Hope to see you again soon!

Announcements:

Mother's Day – (Sunday, May 12) Today we honor the mothers in our lives. Happy Mother's Day!

Session Meeting – (Tuesday, May 14 at 6 p.m.)

Congregational Care Committee – (Wednesday, May 15 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.) Anyone interested is invited to assist the Congregational Care Committee with a birthday party for residents at Governors Bend. We will meet in the lobby at 1:30 p.m. The committee will also play bingo with the residents after the party, ending at 4 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Sewell (423) 220-9169.

Mission Trip – Erwin Presbyterian Church will send eight youth and three adults on a mission trip to Washington D. C., June 12-16. We are asking our congregation to help, by donating some food and snack items. If you are able to help, or have any questions, please contact Denise Rose at (423)741-4806.

Job Opening – We are seeking an administrative assistant for our church. It is a part-time position at 20 hours per week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Ellen Sewell by email: smsdd57@gmail.com or phone: (423) 220-9169. Thank you!

Lucille Bogart Scholarship –Submission of applications for the spring semester is now open. The deadline to submit your application is Friday, May 24, 2024. Please contact Byron Beard with any questions.

Please Follow Us – Do you know that we are on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube? Please like, follow, and share! It is a great way to learn about and to share our church activities. Simply look us up at: Erwin Presbyterian Church.

Food Collection – The food pantry item for May is canned fruit.

Elder of the Month – Green Faircloth



“God could not be everywhere,
and therefore he made mothers.”

Rudyard Kipling

Contact Information

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