

He is
RISENI!



Welcome to Our Celebration of Worship on this Glorious Easter Morning!

To all who live joyfully and long to share their excitement ... to all who mourn and need comfort ... to all who are weary and need rest ... to all who are homeless and desire sheltering love ... to all who pray or are in need of prayer ... to all who sin and need a Savior ... to all who recognize Christ in their midst and hunger to share God's love with all the world ... Old First Presbyterian Church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus Christ, says ... WELCOME!

**Those who are able, please stand in body or spirit.*

*(The congregation is invited to join in speaking or singing **items in bold.**)*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

Prelude

Improvisation

K. Friese

Please use the prelude as a time to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God together.

DRAMATIC READING

He Is Risen

*The congregation is invited to join in the dramatic reading by repeating the phrase below. Each time you hear, "Christ is risen!" please respond with, "**He is risen indeed!**"*

INTROIT

Easter Fanfare

E.E. Ferguson

Sanctuary Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Adapted from Psalm 118*)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Praise be to Jesus, our Christ, the Messiah!

The Lord is victorious over sin and death;

let all God's people sing joyful songs of praise!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Praise be to Jesus, our Christ, the Messiah!

We will not die, but live; declaring with thanksgiving and joy
what the Lord has done!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Praise be to Jesus, our Christ, the Messiah!
The stone the builders rejected has become
the cornerstone of our faiths and our lives!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Praise be to Jesus, our Christ, the Messiah!
This *is* the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice, be glad, celebrate, and worship!

*HYMN 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, on this day of resurrected joy and everlasting hope, we come to you in faith because only you may complete our hearts and lives. Without you, we live our lives in ways that obscure your light and disfigure your image within us. We take the joys of life for granted and when things do not go our way, we are easily overwhelmed by sadness, worry, fear, and despair. Too often, we fail to live with resurrected hearts – hearts that see your eternal possibilities, even in the midst of the turmoil and turbulence that surround us. We are like the disciples on that first Easter morning ... wallowing in the dreadful despair of Good Friday, rather than running to meet the resurrected Christ with joy-filled expectation.

Loving God, help us live with Easter faith that sees the endless possibilities of your eternal love and everlasting grace in all things. With thankful hearts and joyful spirits, may our eyes be open to your presence in our lives and our hearts rejoice for eternal reminders of the Risen Christ among us. Fill us with Easter joy so that we may remember who we are in the resurrection of our Christ and give thanks for your gracious mercy, freely given in unconditional love. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Christ, the Lord and Savior of our lives, who lives and reigns with you forever ...

(Please continue in silent prayer of confession.)

Together, let all of God's people say, **amen.**

DECLARATION OF THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (Hymn 240)

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

(We will sing the refrain, verse 2, and the refrain once more.)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: In everlasting love, God redeems us and sets us free.

People: God forgives us ... frees us ... and gives us peace.

To God we are ever thankful. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:34-43, New Testament, p. 129 / P. 157

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

All Things New
Sanctuary Choir

Courtney

TIME WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Congregational Invitation: (sung)

**This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
This is where children belong.**

SECOND LESSON

John 20:1-10, New Testament, p. 114 / P. 140

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Lightbulb Moments”

*HYMN 238

Thine Is the Glory

We Respond in Word and Deed

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the One triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

INVITATION TO RECEIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Empty Now

Martin

Sanctuary Choir

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE 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 right to give God our thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

OFFERING OF OUR TIME AND TALENT

COMMUNION

All are invited to hold the bread and cup so that we may commune together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

OFFERING OF OUR TIME AND TALENT

*HYMN 245

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Hallelujah Chorus

In keeping with Easter tradition, anyone who would like to join together in singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from G.F. Handel's, "The Messiah," may join the choir.

Please make your way to the choir loft during the final hymn.

*POSTLUDE

Toccata from Symphony #5

C.M. Widor

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

Happy Easter to all who gather this morning to give praise, glory, and honor to the Risen Christ! On behalf of the family of faith at Old First, we offer our thoughts and prayers to all of God's children in finding in the empty tomb a place of hope, peace, joy, and faith!

May God bless you with joy and peace throughout this Easter season and beyond!

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Matthew T. Means, Pastor

Brett Raynor, Lector

Ken Friese, Director of Music

Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

Please continue to pray for those who remain on our prayer list ...

Holly Baptista, John Dunder (Friend of Jahier Family), Bob and Gail Esser, William Gray (Father of Dorothy Mandrakos), Dave and Else Haddock, Family and Friends of Clarissa Jost, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), Bob Miller, Virginia Perry, Lucille Ravalgi (Mother of Julie Salzano), Angelica Richter, James Schubauer, George West (Father of Deborah West), and Grace Youngquist

Names on our prayer list will remain for a month.

If you would like to add a prayer request, please contact Pastor Means.

From Our Family to Yours . . .

Welcome to Old First!

Thank you for joining us to celebrate our risen Lord on this wonderful Easter morning. We hope and pray God's spirit has blessed each of you in our gathering and that God will continue to be revealed to us all in new and powerful ways throughout this Easter season.

If you come to this place looking for a church home, questioning your faith, or struggling in any way, please contact our Pastor, Matthew Means, or speak with any church member for more information about the life and ministry of Old First Presbyterian Church.

We are a caring family of faith that seeks to provide opportunities for men and women of faith to join together in their faith journeys in ways that allow us to grow closer in relationship with our God and with one another.

May God bless you and keep you during this Easter season and always!



Old First Presbyterian Church

125 Main Street

Huntington, NY 11743

(631) 427-2101

Rev. Matthew T. Means, Pastor

www.oldfirstchurchhuntington.org

Acts 10:34-43

New Testament, p. 129 / P. 157

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by

God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 20:1-10

New Testament, p. 114 / P. 140

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth

that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.