

Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas, oil on canvas
Sanssouci, Potsdam, Germany
Caravaggio (1571-1610) Spain

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

JOYS AND CONCERNS

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Today God's only son arose from death BWV 630*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Robin Nemser

This is the good news: the tomb could not hold him; death is defeated!

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Christ is risen!

He flings open the locked doors of our hearts,
speaking words of peace and offering forgiveness.
We gather to worship our risen Lord
whose life is our life; whose peace, our peace.

***HYMN 244** *This Joyful Eastertide*

VRUECHTEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of resurrection power, we have allowed ourselves to be captive to fear, sin, and doubt. We do not trust good news to be good. And so we pray, bring new life where we are worn and tired; compassion where we have turned hard-hearted; grace where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and liberation from that which entangles us. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

KYRIE 833 *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

ST. MARGARET

O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

***GLORIA 240** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia!
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Give praise to God's name.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...
... and also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

MUSIC *Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

Garrett Parker

GOSPEL READING 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, 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.

For the wisdom we find in this ancient story,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Promise of Peace

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 231** *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

SUO GAN

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING *If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.*



OFFERTORY *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth from Messiah*

Alexander Crichlow-Bradshaw, soprano

George Frideric Handel

(1685-1759)

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The prayer continues, concluding with...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF COMMUNION

If you are in the sanctuary, please come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup, and return by the outside aisle. Gluten free, dairy free bread is available in a dish on each plate. If you are at home, when the bread is broken, please break the bread. When the cup is poured, please pour it or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life, we give thanks that the bread we have broken brings wholeness, and the cup poured out replenishes. Made whole and replenished, may we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life; may we, who drink his cup, share new life with others - until all creation is fed, at peace, and whole. In your many names we pray, Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 247** *Now the Green Blade Rises*

NOËL NOUVELET

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fantasy on "Easter Hymn"*

William Henry Harris
(1883-1973)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor

Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist

Alexander Crichlow-Bradshaw, Soloist

Robin Nemser, Liturgist

Judy Sperling, Elder of the Day

Yvonne Davis, Usher

Dawn Shirey, Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint

Andy Fuller, Audio/Camera

Joys and Concerns: We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Faith's homebound members and those receiving long-term care.

Our partners in Cuba

Victims of gun violence

The families of those killed in the collapse of the Key Bridge.

The people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Sudan, and all those who suffer from war and disaster.

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

Childcare for our young children is available. While kids are welcome in worship, there is a caregiver and safe play space in the nursery, just out the door nearest the pulpit.

Children's Sunday School On most Sunday mornings, after the Moment with Faith Kids, kids ages 4 and up are invited to explore the passage of the day with games, crafts, and other activities. They will return at the end of worship to the sanctuary.

Restroom – the closest restroom is outside the door at the front of the sanctuary (by the pulpit), just turn right.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** email by completing the visitor card or go to the website: faithpcbalt.org and navigate to “Contact Us.”

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Wednesdays - Join Cat Wednesdays to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 818 8551 6595; passcode: 716331

The Four Collages at the front of the sanctuary today represent our prayers through the season of Lent. The sunburst pattern is created from paper torn on Ash Wednesday and the first Sunday of Lent (the tearing of paper representing the rending of our hearts). Then, each week in worship we offered prayers and set intentions to connect more deeply with ourselves, our communities, nature, and the transcendent. Take time today to look more closely at each piece, giving thanks for our shared journey over the past six weeks. Special thanks to all who helped to create the collages: participants in our Ash Wednesday service, Paula Burger, Gillian Goodrich, Robin Nemser, Gail Poorbaugh, and Lori Rawle.

The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom.* Meeting ID: 829 2802 1217, passcode: 551345

Celebrating Baltimore's Cultural Resources Join the Forum in April for a series highlighting some of Baltimore's cultural treasures. We are fortunate to live in a city that has nationally recognized historical sites, major art and other museums, a world class symphony, and so many more cultural resources. Let's learn more about what Baltimore has to offer together.

- 4/7 - Ft. McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine with National Park Ranger Bill Curtis (with option of tour of Ft. McHenry following worship.)
- 4/14 - B&O Railroad Museum with Train Historian John Geist
- 4/21 - Walters Art Museum with former Board Chair Ellen Bernard and a Curator
- 4/28 - Baltimore Symphony Orchestra with Resident Pianist Lura Johnson

Book Club: The April book we are reading *North Woods* by Daniel Mason. “A sweeping novel about a single house in the woods of New England, told through the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries.” A New York Times book review top ten book of the year; a Washington Post top ten book of the year and finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award Book Club will meet at Pat & Jack Nesbitt's home (3913 Juniper Road, Baltimore, 21218) on **Tuesday April 30 at 7PM.**

ROPAGOFA Youth Group meets every third Sunday! Join young people from Faith, Govans, and Roland Park churches to build a durable faith through fun, games, and encountering God together. The next gathering will be on **Sunday, April 21 5:30-7pm at Roland Park Presbyterian.**