Welcome

Prelude *“He is Risen’* R. M. Stults

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Be glad and rejoice! Hear the Good News!

**People: And the celebration continues!**

Leader: We greet the Risen Christ who is here among us.

**People: We praise the Risen Christ and worship with great joy.**

\*Opening Hymn: *“He Lives”* Red Hymnal, #220

\*Prayer of the Day (Unison)

**On the first day of creation, Holy God, You held out Your hands, filled with all the grace we would ever need; and You began to surround us with all that is good and pleasant. On the first day of Easter, Defeater of Death, You walked through the closed doors of our doubts and fears; You held tight until the warmth of your grace softened our hardened hearts. On the first day of following You, Breath of Peace, You opened our eyes to the bright color of hope; You teach us the glad songs of grace. God of wonders, we bring You our Easter season worship and praise. Amen.**

\* Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father…) Red Hymnal, #623

Children’s Time

Scripture *“John 20:19-31”* (page 1686)

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *“Peace Be With You”* Rev. Kimby Young

\*Profession of Faith The Apostle's Creed Red Hymnal, inside back cover

**I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

\*Hymn *“Because He Lives”* Red Hymnal, #213

Offertory Meditation *“Wonderful Savior”*

Elisha Hoffman / arr. Jane Carrier

\*Doxology

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*(All bread is gluten free. Prepacked elements are available in the back.)*

Invitation

Great Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution – Breaking of Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Closing Hymn:  *“Christ Arose”* Red Hymnal, #216

\*Benediction

Postlude *“Christ Arose”*

Robert Lowry / arr. John M. Rasley

\*Those who are comfortably able will please stand.

*Rev. Kimby Young, Pastor; Dean Faulk, Music Ministries*

*Rhonda Atwater, Worship Assistant*

*Alice Rollf, Organist*

*Mike McGuire and Brad Cornell, Slide Production*

*Theo Borge, Tech, and Videographer; Kim Liu, Soun*

**Childcare is always available in the nursery** (off the hall to the west of the sanctuary).  Children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary thru the whole service, or to leave at any time.  Allison Perry is our primary childcare attendant.

**Offering Plates** are at the entrance of each aisle for your contributions to the work of the church.

**Gardner Multi Service Center** collection is ongoing every week and is always in need of any non-perishable food. Bring something every week or once a month.

**Fair Trade Products for Sale** on Sundays Coffee, tea, chocolate, nuts, olive oil, dried fruit, baking products, and a few other items are for sale each Sunday at church.

**Harvesters Food Distribution** is always seeking volunteers. Every 3rd Saturday at Trade Net Parking lot and every 4th Wednesday at Divine Mercy Parish. Distribution begins at about 1 p.m.

**Session has established a "Suggestion Box"** just outside the office for ideas, comments, questions, and thoughts.  Contents will be reviewed at session meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month.  Names are helpful if we need to follow up, but you may remain anonymous.

**Men’s Breakfast April 9, 2024**, Perkins at 7:00 a.m.

**PYF Fundraiser for Mission Trip for 2025** Chicken N Noodles Dinner, Sunday, April 21, 11:30 – 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

**PW Annual Spring Brunch on Saturday,** April 27th 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

**Funeral dinner volunteers** - We are updating our list of people willing to bring food for funeral dinners.  We call people from the list when there is a need and people respond as they are able at the time.  A sign up sheet is in the narthex near the devotional books.  Even if you have been on the list before, please sign up again to confirm your willingness to be called.

**Joy Closet** is in need of someone to work in the sporting goods, Pricing all goods and putting them out on the sale floor.  This would need done probably twice a week. Need a Cashier for Wednesdays 1:00 - 4:00pm. Need a Cashier Assistant for every Other Thursday 10:00 - 1:00 assisting Doc. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping in any of these areas please have them contact Ginger Crist.

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First Presbyterian Church

*In the heart of Gardner since 1866 ~ Serving from the heart of God*

*Sunday,* *April 7, 2024*

*8:45 AM*

*A drawing of a church

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***Welcome -*** *Thank you for joining us for worship today.  Please fill out a visitor information card found in the pew racks and place those in the offering plate so that we may follow up with you in the future.  Your presence with us today has been a blessing to us, we hope that you have felt the presence of God and the welcome of this congregation.*