



The Women Find the Tomb Empty (He is not here, He is risen)

Illustration: Alexandre Bida, Photo of Illus.: Frank Zimmerman



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 27, 2025
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 27, 2025

In this particular moment in time, [the women's visit to the tomb] poses important questions for us: whom do we believe and why? Or why not? Within the community of faith, are we prepared to be perplexed (not angry or vexed) when our expectations are not matched by reality? Are we prepared to have traditional symbols transformed? What memories do we recall so that we learn to seek the living rather than the dead?

—Holly Hearon

Gathering Music

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

Martin Smith/Marilynn Ham. © 1994 Curious? Music UK/ Alfred Music.
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

"Christ Hath Triumphed, Alleluia!"

Edward Broughton. © 1986 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Laura McCorkill

(Based on Psalm 150)

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space! Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

People: Give praise for God's mighty deeds! Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

Leader: Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

People: Praise God with the harp and the cello!

Leader: Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

People: Praise God with flutes and guitars!

Leader: Praise God with cymbals and drums!

People: Let everything with life and breath praise God!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 197)

"We Welcome Glad Easter"

ST. DENIO

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace

"Celtic Alleluia"

Fintan O'Carroll/Christopher Walker. © 1985 OCP (Oregon Catholic Press).
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Children's Sermon

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer (CONGR 208)

“He Is Lord”
HE IS LORD

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. As God's own forgiven people, go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

Morning Prayer and 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

“Lamb of God”
Words & melody: Twila Paris; arr. & transcribed by Craig Courtney(ASCAP).
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In *Small But Mighty II*, Beckenhorst Press. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

“There Is a Redeemer”
Melody Green/Victor Labenske. © 1982 Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane Music Pub. Co./Lillenas Pub. Co.
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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those wishing to attend Children's Church may leave now.)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
Luke 24.8-12

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
“The Road to the Tomb: The Women Lead”

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 207)

“Low in the Grave He Lay”
CHRIST AROSE

* Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

“Alleluias”

Noel Rawsthorne. © 1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams

Liturgist: Laura McCorkill

Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Livestream Video Crew: Joanna Gillette, Brenda Schenkel • Sound: Marylee Southard

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Susan Pauls

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Salvation Army Church

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Dr. Cheryl F. Dudley,
serving the American Baptist churches of Metro New York

International Ministries Global Servant: Ray Schellinger, global consultant in support of immigrant and refugee ministry

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* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able

Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.
The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Senior Pastor

Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Administrative Support Manager

Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Bookkeeper

Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Building Manager

Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Digital Media Manager

Mark Robinson – mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Director of Worship Music

Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist

Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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