

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 11, 2021
10:45 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Texas
Link to worship videos available at: www.fpcbryan.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME

Let us say again this Sunday what disciples shared with each other
beyond Jesus' burial place only a week ago: The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed.

HYMN NO. 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

**All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!**

~~~~~

Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE OF PARDON, AND JOYFUL RESPONSE

Expressing praise and confession to God, let us pray . . . **Eternal God, as you guide us beside the still waters and lead us to lie down in green pastures, as you accompany us into every valley and canyon of shadow, uncertainty, grief, and death, as you anoint us for healing with the ointment of your love: receive our praise that we are always yours. O Author of Life and Love, we acknowledge our waywardness and sin in relation to you, your creation, and your people. Forgive us, we pray, every act, word, and thought which are outside of your expressed faithfulness and your ongoing desire for our lives and witness to you. In these moments of silence, hear our confessions . . .**

*(pausing in silence for prayer)*

May the fountain of your grace, Blessed One, forgive us and continually make new our lives in Jesus Christ, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

SCRIPTURE READING

John 21:1,3-12

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

“Follow Me” Follow-through:

Showing Ourselves in Jesus’ Way from Life Anew Beyond Good-Bye - #1

HYMN NO. 250

In the Bulb There is a Flower

PROMISE

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, CONSECRATION, INTERCESSION, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray . . . When we are discouraged, downcast, and exhausted, Holy Sovereign, you lift us up as on eagle's wings; and we thank you. You bring us into encounters with others for encouragement, partnership, and care; and we thank you. When we feel at the end of hopefulness and without an ounce of energy within us for persevering, you prompt and strengthen us; and we thank you.

Where there is worry, fear, struggle, or grief, grant us the wherewithal to reach out to one another. Cause your compassion to come to life among one and all, and cause your vision for communities of shared well-being to come to life among younger and older, rural and urban, people of every creed and ethnicity. For we offer ourselves in your service, by the power of your spirit known fully in Jesus Christ, who long ago taught disciples to pray:

**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.**

HYMN NO. 233 (*st. 1 & 3*)

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,  
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,  
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;  
the round world keep high triumph and all that is there-in.  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.**

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Cindy Berry

+ + + + +

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available in the narthex.

Please help yourself or ask an usher for assistance.

**NEW MEMBERS** may be received any Sunday by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership. If you feel led to inquire about becoming a church member or deepening your commitment as a disciple of Jesus Christ, please indicate your desire on the fellowship folder or call the church (979.823.8073) or email Pastor Ted Foote ([tfoote@fpcbryan.org](mailto:tfoote@fpcbryan.org)) or Associate Pastor Emily Béghin ([ebeghin@fpcbryan.org](mailto:ebeghin@fpcbryan.org)). They will be glad to arrange a mutually convenient Sunday when you can be received by the Elders and introduced to the congregation.



## A WARM WELCOME!

*We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today.*

### WORSHIP NOTES

#### PREACHER

Rev. Ted Foote

#### LITURGIST

Rev. Emily K. Béghin

#### USHERS & GREETERS

Sherry Hinnant; David Holdredge;  
Marcia Miculek; Eileen Peters;  
Ernie Wright

#### MUSICIANS

David Kipp,  
*Director of Music Ministries*  
Michelle Lassiter, *piano*

#### AUDIO-VISUAL | SOUND

Nicole McKinley; Jerry Norris;  
Bill Watson

#### CHANCEL FLOWERS

In loving memory of  
Catherine & Joseph Wesp  
by  
Ashley & Michael Wesp, and Josh Wesp

#### COVER ART

“The Appearance of Christ on Lake Tiberias and the miraculous draught of fish”  
(c. 1308-11). From the stories of Christ aft. Resurrection. Back of the “Maestà” from Siena Cathedral (Italy), top part, 1<sup>st</sup> panel right  
Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1255-1319)

#### COPYRIGHT LICENSES

Hymns from *Glory to God:*  
*The Presbyterian Hymnal*  
CCLI 196019  
*OneLicense.net* A-718836  
CVLI 504246321



### THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 11, 2021

9:00am Church School: Loose Leaf Class-Zoom  
9:00am 2021 CONCLAVES ('till Noon)-Zoom  
9:20am Church School: Seekers Class-Zoom  
9:20am Church School: The Word Class-303/Zoom  
10:45am Worship-S\*

Live-streamed worship will be viewable via [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org), with click on homepage “sentence about worship” or small red YouTube box in far top right of homepage screen

#### MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021

5:30pm Worship Committee-L  
5:30pm Cub Scout Pack 350-FH  
7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 976-FH

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

10:00am Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team-304  
11:45am Staff Meeting-L

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

6:00pm Membership Building & Evangelism-10  
6:00pm Property Committee-L

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021

#### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 18, 2021

9:00am Church School: Loose Leaf Class-Zoom  
9:20am Church School: Seekers Class-Zoom  
9:20am Church School: The Word Class-303/Zoom  
10:45am Worship-S\*

Live-streamed worship will be viewable via [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org), with click on homepage “sentence about worship” or small red YouTube box in far top right of homepage screen

\* *During COVID-19, Room 108 is available for your nursery needs.*

## PLANT AND SEED SWAP SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 25

Following worship on Sunday, April 25, Congregational Care Committee invites YOU to participate in a Plant and Seed Swap on the covered (Gordon St.) entrance to the church sanctuary. For this FREE, fun event, simply bring your potted plant, seeds, or plant starts to swap with others. Full details can be found on our church website at [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org) and in the church newsletter. FPC member Beth Morris has designed a unique craft that complements this event. You are invited to bring your completed craft back to church the following Sunday (May 2). To participate in the swap and to ensure enough tables are set up, RSVP to Nicole McKinley, 224.475.3299 or [59mckinley@gmail.com](mailto:59mckinley@gmail.com) before **THU, APRIL 22.**



## PUZZLE SWAP



**LAST CHANCE! These puzzles will disappear!** The puzzles are available in the Indoor Patio thru **FRI, APRIL 16.** Bring in one puzzle, take one. Bring in two puzzles, take two. **Just want to clean out old puzzles?** We'll take them! Bring in **COMPLETE** puzzle sets.  
(NOTE: Donated puzzles will not be returned.)

## CONCERTS ON CARTER CREEK



In its 38<sup>th</sup> season, Concerts on Carter Creek welcomes the return of the **PETER LIEUWEN TRIO** to our sanctuary on **SUN, APRIL 18, at 5:00pm.** The Peter Lieuwen Trio performs the great jazz standards of the 20th century, contemporary jazz tunes, and original compositions. Their diverse repertoire includes music by jazz greats Ellington, Gershwin, Porter, Coltrane, Jobim, Rogers & Hart, Robert Glasper, Roy Hargrove and Monty Alexander. Playing ballads, swing, Latin, Afro-Cuban, and fusion styles; members of the trio have performed worldwide with artists such as Doc Severinsen, Bo Diddley, The Drifters, Martin Short, Sheryl Crow, Delbert McClinton, and Lonnie Mack. Peter Lieuwen's compositions have been recorded on the Naxos, New World, and MSR Classics labels.

-----  
The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, is **Noon, Sunday, April 18.**

This newsletter will be distributed **Wednesday, April 21,** and will cover news from **April 29 thru May 12.** Submit content to: [office@fpcbryan.org](mailto:office@fpcbryan.org).

### *Visit us on social media!*

On the web [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org) for the newsletter, announcements, worship bulletins, updates, etc.

*Facebook* [www.facebook.com/FPCBryan](https://www.facebook.com/FPCBryan)

*Instagram* [www.instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com) Search for and follow **fpcbryantx1867** and/or **fpcbryan\_youth**

### *BE THE FIRST TO KNOW*

*when WORSHIP and ACTIVITY videos are uploaded to our YouTube channel!*

Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), search for First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas, then click **SUBSCRIBE**

### *Share prayer needs and church group news with fellow FPC participants on Church Updates—*

FPC-Bryan's online tool for YOU to post church-related announcements, ways to serve, and your current prayer needs. This online tool is "REAL TIME." Users receive a weekly reminder email on Thursdays to view new posts.

Contact Karen in the church office, 979.823.8073 or [office@fpcbryan.org](mailto:office@fpcbryan.org) to set up your account.

Then, login at <https://fpcbtx.churchupdates.org/login> to create your password-protected account.

## “Follow Me” Follow-through:

### Showing Ourselves in Jesus’ Way from Life Anew Beyond Good-Bye - #1

John 21:1,3-12

April 11, 2021

Ted V. Foote, Jr.

First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Texas

John, chapter 21 is classified by a number of Bible students as – what teachers of literature call – an “epilog.” Literally, an “epi-log” is “a word upon” the longer story which just ended. With respect to the Gospel According to John, let’s say that Chapter 21 is “a word upon Chapter 20.” In that twentieth chapter, Mary Magdalene and (later) the men disciples encounter the resurrected Jesus beyond the grave where his body had been buried. Then in chapter 21, resurrected Jesus is encountered again, this time weeks’ later, on the beach along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Life seems to have taken a turn for the ordinary. The disciples are back fishing, which is the livelihood several of them left behind to follow Jesus a year or so ago. Like some other days, they are not catching anything, and then a guy with a campfire on the beach hollers at them to try the other side of the boat with their deep nets.

Many times across the years I have preached from this set of verses, yet only this year does it occur to me that John 21 has, what I call “grief-dream characteristics.” I am not saying this story tells of an encounter that did not happen, or that it is fiction. I am saying that it reads like a dream which is experienced after someone beloved has died. In a dream of this sort, a person grieving pictures himself or herself doing something familiar when the unusual or somewhat strange occurs. The disciples are fishing, not catching anything, when the guy on the beach hollers a suggestion. While they had no fish in their nets, after this re-cast on the opposite side, they had more fish than they could easily haul into the boat. Then, on the shore, they are up close with Jesus, who had been crucified and buried, but then experienced mysteriously as alive anew beyond the grave. Here he had cooked fish for breakfast for them. Here also he again teaches them with a repetitious and pithy reminder about caring for flocks of God’s people as Jesus would care for them/ as Jesus had demonstrated his own caring before his crucifixion. After his pithy reminder about caring for flocks of God’s people, he concludes with the same words he spoke when originally calling the disciples: “Follow me” (21:19).

This may not have been one of the disciple’s dreams after Jesus was crucified, buried, and mysteriously experienced beyond the grave, but it reads like a dream is being reported. The first verse of Chapter 21 reports, “Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the sea, and he showed himself in this way.”

“He showed himself in this way” (v.1). Then, at verse 19, he concludes, “Follow me.” So one way to remember what’s going on here, in summary fashion, I think, is to consider the story as “‘Follow me’ follow-through.” And, if “Jesus showed himself again in this way,” how do we, in our lives, “show ourselves” when following him?

Since mid-March of 2020, several members of First Presbyterian have contracted the COVID-19 virus. As a congregation, we have experienced two members dying from COVID-19. Three members of the congregation, though, have died since mid-March of

2020, and – for a variety of reasons – their families did not ask the church to host either a memorial service or a graveside service for them. One or more family members lived away, or the families made arrangements on their own. Beginning today, though, plus on April 25 and May 2, I will refer briefly to each of the three, respectively, on those dates: Mary Arnold, Audrey Prouty, and Elaine Vance. How I refer to each of them relates directly to John’s chapter 21: today, how did Mary Arnold demonstrate “‘Follow me’ follow-through” in relation to Jesus during her life?

Mary was the daughter of working class parents in rural western Pennsylvania. While growing up, the oldest of six children, she was so well-acquainted with not having very much, that anything additional and nice was considered extravagant. After high school, she attended nursing school, passed her State Boards, and later would earn a Bachelor of Science in nursing, a Master of Science in nursing, and a Master of Science in management. She became a consummate nursing educator. Early in her career, she entered the nursing corps of the U.S. Air Force, eventually meeting and marrying her husband, Richard, later becoming the mother of their son Rich and daughter Kathy.

In the Chapter 21 possible grief-dream story of Jesus and the disciples on the beach beside the lake, at verse 12, it’s reported: “Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord.” You did not really have to ask who Mary was either. She might seem reserved on some occasions. If she knew you well, she might seem opinionated. But she was unmistakably willing to assist, willing to give support, and willing to give some guidance. The consummate nursing educator. Mary was no more flawless than you or I, and no more flawless than any of those disciples who followed Jesus and heard him say, “Care for, tend, and feed my flock.” Yet you did not have to ask who Mary was, because you could tell. She was a nursing educator and a caring person, willing to grow as she learned and experienced, willing to struggle with faith in life, especially when challenge and grief arose, and sensing that the crucified and buried Jesus somehow yet lives anew in her life and among God’s people near and far – by grace.

You could tell who Mary was, because, whatever challenge you faced or she faced, she was going to care for, tend, and feed the flock of God’s people. She was, with God’s help, going to follow Jesus Christ; and you knew that because her follow-through was as clear as the fish in the frying pan that morning on the beach so long ago. Or was it in the dream of the fried-fish-breakfast on the beach so long ago?

When you or I or Mary or anyone is living the discipleship of following Jesus in community with others throughout God’s world, you and I and Mary and others are truly “living the dream” during the days of our real-life-lives being made new through the vulnerable power of cross and resurrection. “No one dared ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew. And he said, ‘Follow me.’” – All honor and praise be to God.