

# A SERVICE OF WORSHIP CELEBRATING THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

April 12, 2020 at 10:00am

Easter Sunday

## *We Gather Around God's Word*

We invite you to quietly listen during the Prelude and prepare for the service to begin.

*Prelude* "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

WELCOME

Rosemary Schultz

CALL TO WORSHIP

Skip Winter

Leader: At the break of dawn, a bird sings.

**People: The long night of darkness is over.**

Leader: The stone is rolled away.

**People: The tomb is empty!**

Leader: The sun begins to shine.

**People: The Son has risen!**

Leader: It's a morning of glory,

**People: Of God's love overcoming death,**

Leader: Of women spreading Good News,

**People: Of men turning from despair.**

Leader: It's a morning of joy,

**People: For Easter has come again.**

Leader: Love is stronger than death,

**All: And we lift our voices in worship and praise!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Skip Winter

Loving God, we confess that we do not understand the workings of Easter. We could not celebrate flippantly, or miss worshiping every week to give thanks, if we really "got" the depth of love you have for us and the depth of pain that Christ suffered, being both fully human and fully divine. For some reason, we do not leave worship eager to let others know of your great love, a love we cannot otherwise know. Have mercy on us. We love you but just can't demonstrate fully this profound love to those we meet, or those we call family, or those we berate on social media. In the name of the risen Christ, forgive and empower us once again this Easter morn. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Leigh Gillis

*\*We Give Glory to God*

*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.*

## *We Proclaim God's Word*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Skip Winter

**Speak to us, O God, by your loving and healing Spirit. That as your Word is proclaimed and heard, we may be raised to glorify you with our entire lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

New Testament Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

Skip Winter

Second Gospel Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "Resurrection Perspectives"

Rev. Leigh Gillis

## *We Respond to God's Word*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Worship With Our Offerings

Call For Offering

*Offertory* "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"  
Lynn Pinto and Maddie Simone  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

*\*Doxology*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

\*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Benediction

Rev. Leigh Gillis

*Postlude* "Hallelujah Chorus"

Robert Grube, Jr.

Streaming after the service:

Kelli Bruno - "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Daniel Velez - Children's Message

### THE EASTER BANNER

The Easter Banner was made by Karin Burk and hangs in the Sanctuary today.

The left side of the banner is purple indicating the period of Lent and Holy Week. The banner's colors change to the liturgical white which is traditional for the time in the Christian calendar from Easter to Pentecost. The Butterfly is a symbol of new life, and therefore a symbol of the Risen Christ. The butterfly on the Easter banner is leaving the cross, symbolizing that Christ is risen.

*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church, Cranford NJ:  
The Entire Congregation of FPCC  
Pastor – Rev. Leigh B. Gillis  
Director of Children, Youth and Families - Daniel Velez-Acevedo  
Music Director – Alison R. Nead  
Assistant Music Director– Elsa G. Hahn  
Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.  
Office Administrator – Carol Thee

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

[www.firstprescranford.org](http://www.firstprescranford.org)



### *Mission Statement*

*As the body of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live God's Word and inspire others to embrace Jesus' commandment to love one another as the Lord loves us.*

### Prayers of the Church Family

Pray for those in the FPCC Family facing health challenges and the loss of family members.

Pray for loved ones and friends of the FPCC Family.

We pray for people all over the world who are seeking asylum or a better life for themselves and their families. We pray that as a nation, we respond to all people in need in a way that Christ would affirm especially children and parents separated at the border. We pray for the youth of FPCC and the adults who are in their lives. Prayers for peace, understanding and love for all. Prayers for our college students, all students and their teachers. We pray for God's blessing for all in need, *for those serving in the military*, for married couples facing turmoil, first responders, those in leadership of our nation, and for peace in our country and the world.

*Emergency and immediate prayer support is available for friends and family of the Church! Join over 200 of us on the First Presbyterian Church Prayer Chain. To add someone, contact Linda Thorn at [lindathorn427@gmail.com](mailto:lindathorn427@gmail.com), or at 908 358 8127.*



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**PASTORAL CARE** – For Pastoral Care needs and concerns, contact President of Deacons, Amy Aaroe at 908-403-5321. Amy will contact the covering pastor for you. Pastor Leigh Gillis can be reached at [pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org](mailto:pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org).

*Happy Easter!*  
*From Pastor Leigh and the Staff*

