

The Parish Caller April 2, 2021

A Message from Pastor Jay

GOOD FRIDAY RECORDED SERVICE ON WEBSITE

EASTER SUNDAY

**Easter Sunday In-Person Worship 8:30 am & 10:30 am
CDC Guidelines Followed**

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10:00 AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM

Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations

Greetings! Happy Easter! Welcome to our return to worship after more than a year online! Bear with us as we learn the ins and outs of in-person worship using CDC guidelines – masks, social distancing, no congregational singing, etc. At this point some have been fully vaccinated and some not, so please mask up with us another few months until all are vaccinated, A good number of our faithful and involved members moved during the last year to be near family in other states, so we hope to have our own resurrection this year – your gifts and talents are welcome here – we need you! - Musical gifts, volunteers for the office, new study and fellowship opportunities, after worship refreshments, etc. Let us know of your gifts and availability. We will continue with 8:30 and 10:30 am worship each week for spacing needs until the virus is under control. We will see whether we want to continue the two services. So much is unknown at this point – we journey forward by faith!

Starting next week, the 10:30 am service will be recorded and available on the website early in the week after each Sunday. An Easter recorded service was produced and will be available on the website Easter morning as well. Lots of musicians contributed – Brian, Tanner, Jane, Linda, Tom, Deana, and Ann, and Caleb!

BULLETIN

EASTER SUNDAY RECORDED WORSHIP

April 4, 2021

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Collect

Gracious God, we bow in gratitude for all the ways we have met you in the week that is past. We pause in this quiet moment to remember with gratitude: a word of encouragement, an insight of truth, an answer to prayer, calm in the midst of stress, the people you have sent to us who support or challenge us; the work you have given us to do; moments of rest and relaxation. Thank you loving God for all these signs that you love us, understand us and come to us.

Prelude: "Lord of Glory" by Tim Manion – Tanner & Brian

Words of Welcome – Announcements - Passing of the Peace

Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" – Jane Jones

Prayer of Invocation – Diane Mares

Good News God, your angels appeared to the faithful women of Jesus' company, bringing them news more wonderful and awe-inspiring than they could imagine – Christ is Risen! Surely your angels can interrupt our lives, too, breaking into our losses and sorrows and offering a message of tremendous joy to change our lives! Come this Easter morning, we pray, and fill us with joy, that our lives may be renewed in hope and glory. Let us roll back the stone of fear and doubt and experience the resurrected Christ once again! In Christ we pray, Amen.

Easter Acclamation – Diane Mares

L: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn: "The Day of Resurrection" – Linda & Tom

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Epistle Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 - Diane Mares

Hymn" "I Come to the Garden Alone" – Brian & Tanner

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:1-8 - Diane Mares

Hymn: "Rise Again" by Dallas Holm - Deana

Sermon: "Coming Forth into New Non-Binary, Non-Dual Life" - Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Risen One, teach us that your resurrection brings new life to all creation. Today of all days empower us with vision and courage; let us work for your realm in which there is justice for all; where everyone has enough, sharing your abundant life. Save us, God, from our mistakes. Teach us to be a resurrection people, rising from the ashes of our errors to live in a new way on this Earth.

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication - Diane Mares

God of seekers and doubters, bless these gifts so that the world may know that you are always appearing. Bless our lives so that your love might appear in the work we share. Amen.

Hymn: "Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!" – Ann & Caleb

Benediction - Pastor Jay

Go forth to live boldly, as if death has no power over you. Live as if your lives count for something--because they do. God calls us in abundant love to serve something greater than our own finite lives, a greater cause for which we would even lay down our lives, as Jesus did. For just as death on a tree could not stop the Christ, so our lives in service to God become larger than ourselves, part of the ever-in-breaking realm of God. Go in peace, to love, to serve, and to proclaim: Christ is risen!

Postlude: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (organ and brass)

Serving the Church

Ministers All the People of the Church
Pastor Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Robert Bradstreet
Worship Leader Diane Mares
Alter Notes Director Melissa Gates
Organist Brian Moore
Co-Moderators Melissa Gates & Bill Bryant
Minister of the Building Rev. Bill Linson
Facilities Coordinator Tom Macy
Video Technician James Logsdon
Building & Grounds Manager David Tyrrell

First Congregational Church of Prescott

United Church of Christ

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Prescott, AZ 86301

www.fccprescott.org

www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott

928-445-4555

Founded September 26, 1880

APRIL MISSION NEWS

This month's mission emphasis is our denomination's special offering supporting the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). OGHS dollars support a variety of national & global missions which fund (1) health, education and agricultural projects (2) natural & human disaster relief (3) migrant & refugee projects. For donations to the OGHS, please write your check payable to the church, with the memo "OGHS".

Pass (Prescott Area Shelter Services) update. If you would like to attend this year's "Afternoon Tea Event" for a virtual tour of the PASS shelter, please register by going to www.prescottshelters.org/ events.

Members of our Mission Outreach team (Helaine Berman, Becky & Bill Bryant, Patty & Gary Gard) thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Good Friday RECORDED SERVICE

On Good Friday, our recorded service will be available on our website - fccprescott.org. Playwright Micki Shelton (Michele McFadden) has provided a recorded play to be used with readings and music for the service. The actors listed below are the characters in the play.

Synopsis: How does a mother deal with the loss of a child? As seemingly fragile Amanda Jones emerges from a courtroom, she is confronted by a cacophony of reporters' voices, but the brash reporter who interviews her ultimately finds himself to be the weaker of the two.

Cast:

**IN A CORNER
by Micki Shelton**

Cast of Characters:

ED, a bartender (JP Perpich)

DRINKING MAN (Ered Matthew)

REPORTER (Joseph Hough)

AMANDA JONES (Julie Harrington)

VOICES of other newsmen

APRIL WORSHIP

**Good Friday Recorded Service
website - fccprescott.org**

**April 4 Easter 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Mark 16:1-8**

Coming Forth into New, Non-Binary and Non-Dual Life

**April 11 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Holy Humor Sunday**

**April 18 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Christ Among Us**

**April 25 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Good Shepherd Sunday**

TREASURER REPORT

Income as of February 28 is \$25,636

Total expenses are \$20,507.

Total income exceeds expenses by \$5,129.

Year-to-date income is at 21% of the income budget of \$122,450.

Year-to-date expenses are at 14% of the expense budget of \$146,905.

Did you know that our church pays annual membership dues?

As part of our promise to support operations for our Southwest Conference and the UCC in general, we are asked to make an annual payment of \$10 per member of our congregation. Wouldn't you like to help off-set this cost to our church by contributing your \$10 membership dues? If you would like to help, please include the memo "per capita" with your contribution. Thank you!

**SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 23-25
BY ZOOM - DELEGATES NEEDED! PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE
IF INTERESTED**

Instead of continuing with two groups...Christ created a fresh start for everybody...bring us together...and that was the end of hostility...peace to outsiders and peace to insiders... treated as and made equals, sharing the same Spirit and having equal access to God. –Ephesians 2:14-18 (The Message) Co-hosts: Desert Palm UCC (Tempe) and Church of the Good Shepherd (Albuquerque)

REGISTER NOW!

Registration opens on March 1. Early registration cost is \$100 per church which covers all five delegates, and \$20 per person (clergy and guests). Early pricing expires on April 10. Need help with the registration process? Watch this step-by-step video.

We'll conduct the Annual Meeting via the Zoom platform. First time on Zoom? Watch this video. Delegates must attend a mandatory orientation on Saturday, April 17 at 8 am Arizona/ 9:00 am New Mexico and El Paso.

Watch your inbox for the Zoom information the week of April 12.

During the closing worship on Sunday, Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Bill Lyons will preach "A Fresh Start for Everybody" on Ephesians 2:14–18.

Rev. Liana Rowe will preach at the opening worship on Friday.

Virtual Exhibit Hall: With their paid registration, vendors may request a spot on the Virtual Exhibit Hall page by clicking here.

Friday April 23 Morning Plenary 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Hybrid In-Person and Online Panel

LUNCH

Afternoon Breakouts and Hearings:

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm
UCC@ASU/Andrew Ponder Williams - Campus Ministry Update
First Church ABQ - How we are doing it? Panel Guests
Hearing: SWC Budget
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm Panel Guests Hearing: Resolution re Immigrant
Welcoming Hearing:

Resolution re COVID-19 BREAK

7:00 pm
Evening Worship Rev. Liana Rowe is preaching. Liana is retiring in 2021 after many years of dedicated service to the Southwest Conference as board officer, justice organizer, and staff member.

Saturday April 24 Morning Sessions - Voting will take place in both business sessions.

9:00 am - 9:15 am Devotion
9:15 am - 11:00 am Opening Business Session

LUNCH

Afternoon Business 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Business Session

ADJOURN

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm After hours Follow Up: Sharing Time What are churches doing now?

Sunday April 25 10:00 am - 11:00 am Worship Rev. Dr. Bill Lyons, Conference Minister, will be preaching. Bill's theme is "A Fresh Start for Everybody" and his text is from Ephesians, chapter 2.

COVID-19 UPDATE FROM CABINET

Watch for a letter coming to members and friends early in Holy Week regarding a return to in-person worship on Easter Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am CDC guidelines observed.

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH DURING CORONAVIRUS!

- Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page
- You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.
- Use your credit card and get some points!
- Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank mail will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.
- Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

The church office is closed going forward, However, someone will pick up the mail on a daily basis to place checks into the safe.

[Visit our website](#)

[Watch Services Here](#)