



# First Presbyterian Church

meets at

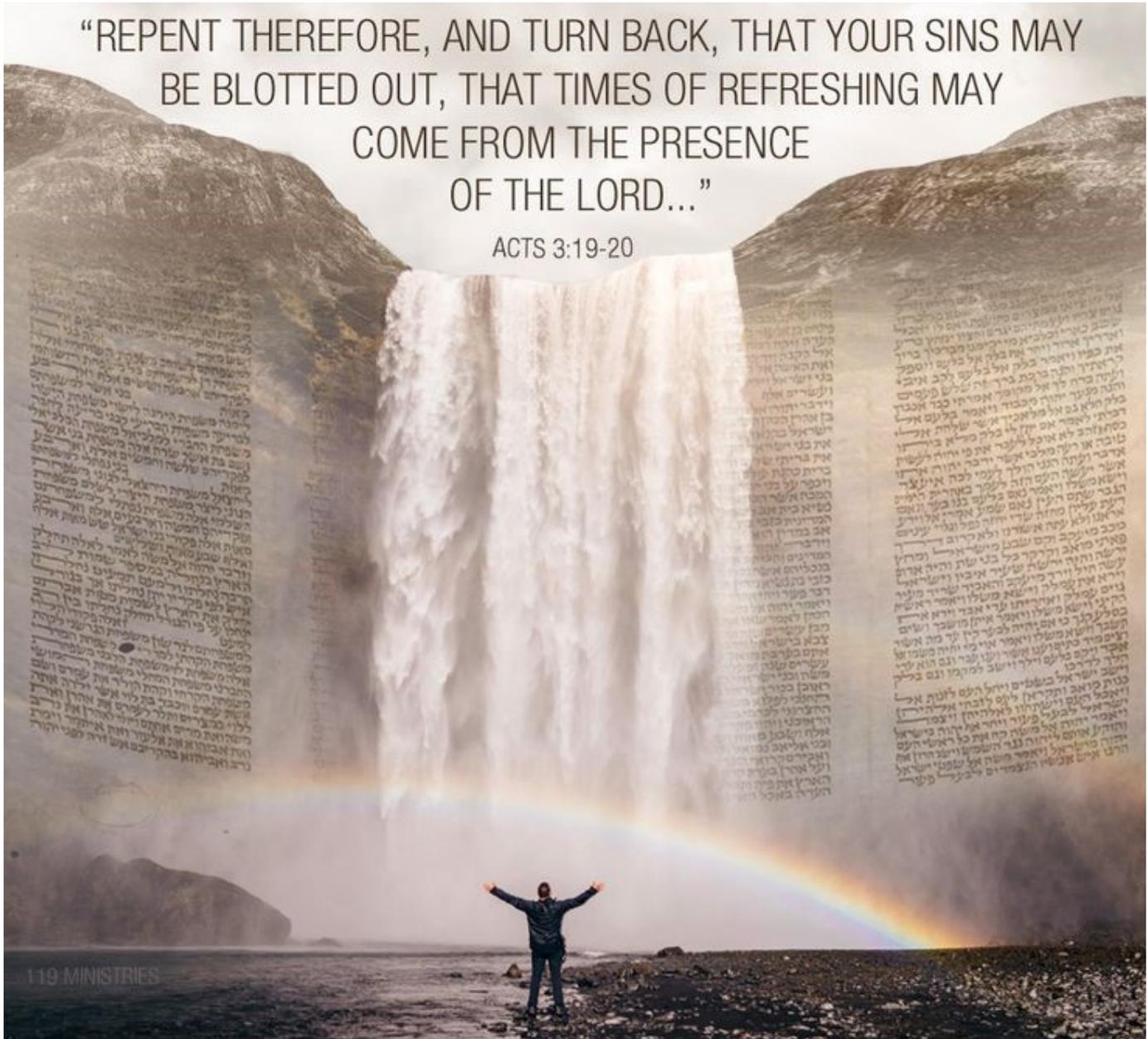
292 West Main Street · Newark, DE 19711  
302-731-5644 · firstpresnewark.org



April 18, 2021

“REPENT THEREFORE, AND TURN BACK, THAT YOUR SINS MAY  
BE BLOTTED OUT, THAT TIMES OF REFRESHING MAY  
COME FROM THE PRESENCE  
OF THE LORD...”

ACTS 3:19-20



119 MINISTRIES

*A nurturing community in Jesus Christ reflecting God's love for the world  
as we Worship, Grow and Serve.*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*"All Things Bright and Beautiful"*

Bob Burroughs  
Carillon Ringers

\* **PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**      *"Sanctuary"*  
*(this is a prayer we will sing to prepare our hearts for worship)*

Thompson/Scruggs

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for You .

*(repeat)*

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

from Psalm 4

One: Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

**All: You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.**

One: Know that the LORD has claimed faithful; the LORD hears when we call!

**All: We offer our worship, and put we put our trust in you, O God.**

One: Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" You have put gladness in our hearts more than when their grain and wine abound.

\* **HYMN 234**

*"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"*

ST. KEVIN

Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel  
into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with un-moistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today:  
Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from the Light, to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

(cont. on next page)

Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection!

Neither could the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own,  
you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore  
passes human knowing.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**O Jesus, you stand in the midst of us and call us to a new place, but we do not want to go. You ask us to open our eyes and see the world around us as it really is. The brokenness, the pain, the in justice, but like those before us we would rather keep our eyes shut. We live in a broken world, much like the world into which you were born, and for which you laid down your life. Your love, O Lord, is enough to sustain us as we look with open eyes upon the world that is around us. As we confess our hard hearts and closed eyes forgive us, but also give us the strength to see the world as it really is, and with the Holy Spirit in our sails empower us to be your agents of love and justice in our world, knowing that you walk with us in every step that we take. Amen.**

#### SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (sung)

*“Open My Eyes, That I May See”*

OPEN MY EYES

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

*(refrain)* Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.  
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear everything false will disappear.

*(refrain)*

**SCRIPTURE**

Acts 3:12-19; Luke 24: 36b-48

Acts 3:12-19

*When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.*

Luke 24:36b-48

*While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you--that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.*

**SERMON**

"What We Don't See"

Rev. Eric Markman

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)**

from The Confession of 1967

**To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.**

I wanna be close, close to Your side  
so Heaven is real and death is a lie;  
I wanna hear voices of angels above  
singing as one.

*(chorus)* Hallelujah, holy, holy,  
God Almighty, great I Am;  
Who is worthy, none beside Thee;  
God Almighty, great I Am.

I wanna be near near, to Your heart,  
Loving the world, hating the dark;  
I wanna see dry bones living again  
singing as one.

*(chorus)*

The mountains shake before You;  
The demons run and flee  
at the mention of Your name, King of majesty;  
There is no pow'r in hell or any who can stand  
before the power and the Presence of the great I Am.

The great I Am. (5 times)

*(chorus)*

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

“Grazioso”

Arnold B. Sherman  
Carillon Ringers

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS**

*Please use the prayer cards in the pews for your prayer concerns and joys and place in offering plate when you leave today. Let us pray for the church, our neighbors in need and the whole world, saying: **Hear our prayer.***

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION 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.  
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you till the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* SONG OF SENDING

“This Is Amazing Grace”

Wickham

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

*(chorus)* Yeah, Oh. This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,  
That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.  
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.  
Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.

Who brings our chaos back into order,  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?  
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.

Who rules the nations with truth and justice,  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?  
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

(cont. on next page)

*(chorus)*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!  
Worthy, worthy, worthy!

*(chorus)*

*(ending)* Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me

**POSTLUDE**

“Danza”

Kevin McChesney  
Carillon Ringers

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DONATED BY:**

Ron and Carol Olson in celebration of their granddaughter, Violet Sokol’s 10th birthday.

**Online giving is available through PayPal** or you can mail or drop your offerings off at the church office. Visit our website giving page for details.

<https://firstpresnewark.org/giving-at-fpc-n/>

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**INTERIM PASTOR:** Rev. Eric Markman

Email: [ericmarkman@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:ericmarkman@firstpresnewark.org); Phone: 603-770-3239

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Cindy Rogers

Email: [cindyrogers@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:cindyrogers@firstpresnewark.org)

**MUSIC LEADERS:** Dave Baker, Karen Baker, Larry Benson, Alex Bock, Melody Bock, Griff Campbell, Jim Pierson-Perry, Mark Sisk

**VIDEO/MEDIA TEAM:** Matthew Bowen, Dave Evers, Ted Koser, Ron Olson, Jim Pierson-Perry, Jeff Rogers

**WEBSITE:** [www.firstpresnewark.org](http://www.firstpresnewark.org)

**PHONE:** 302-731-5644

**EMAIL:** [fpchurch@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:fpchurch@firstpresnewark.org)

**PRAYER EMAIL:** [prayers@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:prayers@firstpresnewark.org)

**ONLINE GIVING:** <https://firstpresnewark.org/giving-at-fpc-n/> (copy link to your web browser)

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Friday 9 a.m.—3:00 p.m.