

Second Sunday of Easter  
April 18, 2021

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

**Prelude**

Easter Fanfare and Chorale

Thomas Chesterton

**Introit**

O Rejoice, Ye Christians

Douglas Wagner

*O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly! Christ is risen, as he said. Alleluia!*

**\*\*Call to Worship** (responsively)

Leader: As God surprised the world in the resurrection of  
Jesus Christ:

**People: We come to worship anticipating God will  
break through our barriers, and reveal a  
fresh word about life.**

Leader: As God amazes us again and again through the  
mystery of Christ's resurrection presence:

**People: We come to praise the One who causes our  
spirits to rejoice, and awakens us to a lively  
hope.**

Leader: Today is the day to celebrate God's power to  
overcome disbelief and doubt!

**People: May we allow God to transform our minds  
and open our hearts to the spirit and joy of  
Christ's resurrection!**

# Christ Arose

Robert Lowry

Robert Lowry

(Low In The Grave He Lay)

Low in the grave He lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior! Wait - ing the com - ing day,  
Vain - ly they watch His bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior! Vain - ly they seal the dead,  
Death can - not keep his prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior! He tore the bars a - way,

7  
Je - sus my Lord! Up from the grave He a rose, With amight - y tri - umph o'er His  
Je - sus my Lord!  
Je - sus my Lord!

12  
foes; He a - rose a Vic - tor from the dark do - main, And He lives for - ev - er with His

16  
saints to reign, He a rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!  
He a - rose! He a - rose!

**\*\*Hymn**

Low In The Grave He Lay

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

**God of love, we confess that we are often more dead than alive. We allow a terminal dullness to prevail. We prefer rigid laws that kill and refuse your Spirit which gives life. We close our minds to your good news, we reject your presence which heals our self-absorption. Forgive our closed thoughts; forgive our narrowness of heart. Renew us in the vibrant gift of abundant life, overflowing with joy. We pray through Jesus, crucified and risen, who walks with us on our journey. Amen.**

**Silent Confession**

**Declaration of Pardon** (responsively)

**Leader:** Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

**People:** Since death came through a human being, so the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being.

**Leader:** As all die in Adam:

**People:** So all shall be made alive in Christ.

**Leader:** Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel:

**People:** In Jesus Christ, we have new life.

**\*\*Gloria Patri**

#581

*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.*

**\*\*Passing of the Peace** (responsively)

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

Leader: In the death and resurrection of Jesus, God reveals God's character and heart.

**People: In the death and resurrection of Jesus, we glimpse God's eternal love for all the world.**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination** (unison)

**Lord Jesus Christ, we greet you. The cross has not defeated you, the grave has not kept you silent. We come hesitantly but gladly to confirm the rumors that you are alive. Meet us as you met the first disciples. Speak our names quietly in our hearts, that we may proclaim your name boldly upon our lips. Amen.**

**Scripture Lesson**            Luke 24:13-27

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem

who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"<sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,<sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.<sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.<sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,<sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.<sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."<sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!<sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"<sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

**Solo**

The Resurrection

Pearl Curran

John Concepcion, soloist

*The first day of the week, cometh Mary Magdalene and seeth the stone rolled away from the door of the tomb. And as she wept, Jesus appeared unto her, and said unto her: "Woman, why weepest thou? Go and tell my disciples that I ascend unto my Father, and to my God." Then many times did Jesus appear to His disciples; they saw His hands, His feet, and felt the wound in His side. He bade them believe that He was the self-same Jesus, and brought to their remembrance things that He had*

*taught them: "I am the resurrection and the life: Whoso believeth in me shall never die. Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me. Believest thou this, that Christ is the Son of God? There shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying; for God hath given everlasting life."*

**Scripture Lesson**            Luke 24:28-35

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us<sup>[k]</sup> while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**Sermon**                            "This Is My Story"

Reverend Dr. David M. Neff, preaching

## 839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!



1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of  
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,  
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,  
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,



pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.



## Refrain



This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior



TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), and a quarter rest. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), and a quarter rest.

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#4, C#5), and a quarter rest. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), a quarter rest, a half note chord (F#2, C#3), and a quarter rest.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*\*Hymn**

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

**\*\*Affirmation of Faith (unison) The Apostles' Creed**  
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Anthem**

The Lord is My Strength                      Samuel Coleridge-Taylor  
*The Lord is my strength, my strength and my song, and is become my salvation. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of God. O Lord of all, with us abide, in this our joyful Eastertide, from every weapon death can wield Thine own redeemed forever shield. All praise be Thine, O risen Lord, from death to endless life restored. All praise to God the Father be, and Holy Ghost eternally. Amen.*

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ("debts")**  
**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.**

### **Prayer Response**

Jesus Stood on the Shore

Henry Lake Gilmour

*Jesus stood on the shore, when the morning came,  
appearing to His friends once more. The beloved disciple  
knew the Lord, who loved him as in days of yore. Jesus  
stands on the shore today, helping struggling souls by the  
way. On the land or wave, Jesus waits to save, He never  
turns a soul away.*

## **BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD**

**\*\*Hymn**

The Day of Resurrection

**\*\*The Charge and the Benediction**

**\*\*Benediction** Let the Alleluias Ring David Lantz  
*Alleluia! Let the alleluias ring! Go into the world and  
sing! Tell the world that Christ has risen; from death's  
prison He is free!*

### **Postlude**

Thine Is the Glory

Handel, arr. Jason Payne

**Thanks to Those Assisting in Our Service**

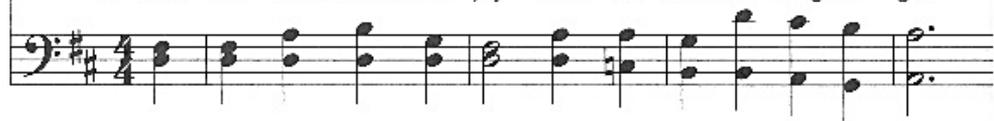
Liturgist: Jeremy Nichols

Livestream Operator: Ramon Smith

## 233 The Day of Resurrection!



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful; let earth its song be - gin;



the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.



## **OUR MISSION AND VISION**

**Mission Statement:** We are a diverse and inclusive community bringing people to Christ through the power of service, education, hospitality and compassion.

**Vision Statement:** Second Presbyterian Church seeks to be a diverse, vibrant and passionate Christ-centered community of hospitality and outreach actively serving the South Loop, the city of Chicago, and the world. We accomplish this through inspirational worship in our historic sanctuary, educational ministry to all ages, and the power of compassionate service to our neighbors.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Worship**

Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church. All are welcome regardless of ethnicity, economic group or sexual orientation to share together in the joy and power of God's love in Jesus Christ.

We open for in-person worship. Worship is live-streamed on our website [www.2ndpresbyterian.org](http://www.2ndpresbyterian.org) each Sunday morning. Join us at 10:55 a.m. for the worship. The sanctuary doors will open at 10:30 a.m.

If you are new to Second Presbyterian Church, please sign a blue visitor's card and leave your email address as you exit the sanctuary.

Bulletin cover: On the Road to Emmaus by Carole Foret.

Second Church is a praying congregation! Please sign a yellow prayer card and note any prayer requests so that we may pray with you and for you.

The Circle of Prayer continues each Thursday at noon. For thirty minutes, we pray for one another, our families, our friends, our city and our world; concluding by 12:30 p.m. The call in number is **(312) 626-6799**; meeting #**811 8615 6150**; passcode **965 126**. All are welcome.

We are taking prayer requests. You can submit them by clicking this link <https://forms.gle/72RzSMc9tAA7y5st8> so that we can pray with you and for you. All prayer requests will go to Pastor Neff and our Office Administrator Ashley. There is an option to mark whether or not your prayer is private.

### **Bible Studies:**

We welcome you to join our Sunday morning and Tuesday afternoon Bible Study Classes. If you would like the curriculum, please contact the church office. The conference call number: **(312) 248-0036**. No PIN required.

- **Sunday morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.**
- **Tuesday afternoons Philippians 1:30 p.m.**

**Alpha to Omega Bible Discussion Group:** The Alpha to Omega Discussion group is in the New Testament. Meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month at 6 p.m. Please use this phone number: (312) 248-0036 (No pin is required). For more information contact Flea Parker at [flea@golden2.net](mailto:flea@golden2.net) or (210) 861-6988.

**RIM (Recreation and Interest Ministries) Committee:**

**Movie Group:** On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will discuss *Winter's Bone*. This 2010 American mystery drama film was adapted from the 2006 novel of the same name by Daniel Woodrell. The film stars Jennifer Lawrence as a teenage girl in the rural Ozarks of Missouri who, to protect her family from eviction, must locate her missing father. Each person will watch the movie on their own and then we will gather on Zoom to discuss it. This event is brought to you by the RIM committee.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87830257932?pwd=alNtMUh6eFpNNlpobWZ0WFIDRTNodz09>

**Time:** April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Central Time (US and Canada)

**Meeting ID: 878 3025 7932**

**Password: 602018**

**One tap mobile:**

+13126266799,,87830257932#,,1#,602018# US  
(Chicago)

**Dial by your location:**

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**Find your local number:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87830257932?pwd=alNtMUh6eFpNNlpobWZ0WFIDRTNodz09>

**Book Group:** Our next book of discussion is The Sultan of Byzantium by Selcuk Altun. This will take place via Zoom on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Please email Ann Belletire if you would like to join this very lively discussion group at [annabelle620e@aol.com](mailto:annabelle620e@aol.com).

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82595103879>

**Meeting ID: 825 9510 3879**

**One tap mobile:**

+13126266799,,82595103879# US (Chicago)

**Dial by your location:**

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**Find your local number:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdP1wkKWdw>

**Support Our Mission and Ministry:** The work of the church is critical in this time of crisis. Our ministry continues to grow in creative and innovative ways. You may now give your offering on the Second Presbyterian Church website at [www.2ndpresbyterian.org](http://www.2ndpresbyterian.org). Look for the “Donate” button and scroll down, following the prompts. Thank you for your faithful giving!

**Connect with Us:** Dr. Neff’s sermons, poetry and reflections on ministry can be found in his blog: [www.davidneff.me](http://www.davidneff.me). To obtain copies of sermons, please contact the church office.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** (please pray for the following)

**Pastor Neff** – the Presbyterian Synod of Cameroon; for all pastors, elders and churches living under persecution

**Anonymous** – Family; thanking God for health; future baby; thanks be to God

**Darlene Pollard** – Julia Branson

**Denise Conway** – Ruth Foley

**Rowena Balogun** – Vivian Randle for recovery from illness

**Rev. David Handley** – my ministry at Fourth Presbyterian Church as Interim Pastor of caring ministries; that I represent Christ well

**Alice Sam** – my search for a job

**Ochiabutor Family** – Ms. McCall and her family; Ms. Gault to get well soon; keep us all safe

**Mary Tibbs** - prayer of Thanksgiving for the Lord answering my prayer for help; my family and friends; my health and recovery from illness; thank you for all the well wishes



## **SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

*Diverse. Inclusive. Community. Engaging. Passionate.*

[www.2ndpresbyterian.org](http://www.2ndpresbyterian.org)

1936 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL. 60616

### **The Session**

Reverend Dr. David M. Neff, Pastor

Darlene Pollard, Clerk

#### **2021**

Dr. Cliff Crawford  
Anthony  
Ochiabutor  
Vicki Reynolds

#### **2022**

Darlene Pollard  
Howard Tiffen  
Amy Haack

#### **2023**

Lisa Armstrong  
Karen Ashley-  
Bowman  
Ozzie Kinnard

### **The Board of Deacons**

Jane Tiffen, President

Jeremy Nichols, Secretary

#### **2021**

Denise Conway  
Catherine  
Soberekon  
Tracy Cargo

#### **2022**

Jeremy Nichols  
Francis Osazuwa  
Jane Tiffen

#### **2023**

Nate Battle  
Sharon Singer  
Margaret Robinson

### **Church Staff**

Reverend Dr. David M. Neff, Pastor

Michael Shawgo, Music Director

Ashley McLean, Office Administrator

Marco Alberto, Sexton

Brian Louis, Seminarian

### **Second Presbyterian Quartet Choir**

Sherry Watkins, soprano  
Corinne Wallace-Crane, alto

John Concepcion, tenor  
Vince Wallace, bass