

D O N E G A L
P R E S B Y T E R I A N
C H U R C H

founded prior to 1721

March 31, 2024

Resurrection of the Lord

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



*“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice
and be glad in it.” - Psalm 118:24 (NRSV)*

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ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE “To God” *M.A. Charpentier*
“Prelude in F Major” *J.S. Bach*
“Alleluia” *W.A. Mozart*
“As the prelude begins, please observe a time of quietness in preparation for worship.”

Gathering in God’s Name

*CHORAL INTROIT “Rejoice, He Is Alive!” *Jean A. Shafferman*

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 118:24

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad
in it. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” #232

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our Salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he’s King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION from Ps. 119:10 and Jer. 31:33-34

**All-knowing, all-powerful God, we confess that, even on this
most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over
death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our**

Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you, not only for life, but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your stunning presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth.

(Silent Confession)

In Christ's name we pray...

Amen.

***DECLARATION OF PARDON**

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER**

#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.

Proclaiming God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON I Corinthians 15:1-11 **NRSV**

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Arise, Arise!” *Nancy Price & Don Besig*

ARISE, ARISE!

Words by DON BESIG
and NANCY PRICE (ASCAP)

Music by
DON BESIG (ASCAP)

CHOIR:

Arise, arise! Let the earth break forth in praise. Arise, arise! Let a joyful song be raised.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing this Easter day.

Hear the bells of Easter ring, resounding ev'rywhere.
Hear the world rejoice and sing as music fills the air.
Celebrate a new beginning. Come give your praise to the risen Lord.
Christ has conquered death and sin. He will reign forevermore!

Come and greet the joyful morn. The victory is won.
Come and see the earth reborn; a bright new day has come.
Now the chains of death are broken. Now let a glad alleluia ring.
Christ our Savior lives again. He will reign as Lord and King!

CONGREGATION and CHOIR:



Je - sus shall reign, let the heav - ens re - joice.



Chris - tians, u - nite in one strong voice.



Sing now with glad - ness; let your joy - ful mu - sic soar.



Je - sus shall reign for - ev - er - more!

CHOIR: Let the earth break forth in praise. Arise, arise! Let a joyful song be raised.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Rejoice this Easter day!

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GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 16:1-8

NRSV

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might

go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Opportunity Before Us” Matt Randolph

Responding to God’s Word

*HYMN “The Strife Is O’er” #236

- R Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
1. The strife is o’er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!
 2. The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shouts of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!
 3. The three sad days are quickly sped;
Christ rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!
 4. Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death’s dread sting they servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee:
Alleluia!
- R Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION

On behalf of the Session... Steven Sturgis, *Clerk of Session*
I present **Hunter John Koppel, Gavin James Randolph, and Owen William Randolph** for the confirmation of the baptismal covenant into which they were baptized. They now desire to profess publicly their faith and to assume greater responsibility in the life of the church, and God’s mission in the world.

Ephesians 2:10, 19-22 (NRSV)

We are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Renunciation

Hunter John, Gavin James, & Owen William...

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God’s help.

Will you devote yourself to the church’s teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

I will, with God’s help.

Profession

The Body of Christ...

As the whole church, let us stand together with Hunter, Gavin, and Owen and confess our faith. ~ *The Apostles’ Creed, circa 8th century A.D.*

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.

Hunter John, Gavin James, & Owen William...

You have publicly professed your faith. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Hunter John, Gavin James, & Owen William...

O Lord, uphold N. by your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in *them* your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

N., remember your baptism and be thankful, and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

Thanks be to God.

WELCOME

The Body of Christ...

Hunter, Gavin, and Owen, by publicly professing their faith, have expressed their intention to continue in the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.

The peace of our Lord and Savior be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional "debts") hymnal p. 35

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.*

GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES, OUR OFFERINGS, AND THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHAREING

OFFERTORY "I Know My Redeemer Liveth" *Gordon Young*

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION #606

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.

Sending in God's Name

*HYMN "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" #248

1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

*BENEDICTION

*EXTENSION OF PEACE

The peace of our Lord and Savior go with you all.
And also with you.

CHORAL RESPONSE "Lift Up, Lift Up Your Voices Now"

POSTLUDE "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" *arr. T. Beck*

**All those who are able may stand.*

Reflection for the Christian Life

Paul's claim about Christ Jesus in I Corinthians 15 is a creed: Christ died, was buried, was raised, and appeared to many disciples and finally to Paul, who writes, "by the grace of God I am what I am" (v. 10). If you were to say those words of yourself, what would it mean that everything about you—all you are and have done—is "by the grace of God"? Where is God's grace evident in your life today?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **TODAY** Sunday, March 31st, Resurrection of the Lord – Traditional Worship, 9:00 a.m. No Adult or Children's Sunday School.
- **TODAY** Sunday, March 31st, Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt - immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service.
- **TODAY** Sunday, March 31st, Celtic Sabbath Worship 11:15 a.m.
- **Monday, April 1st**, Boy Scouts
- **Tuesday, April 2nd**, Cub Scouts
- **Wednesday, April 3rd**, Men's Breakfast, 7:00 a.m. Gus's Restaurant
- **Wednesday, April 3rd**, Worship Team Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 3rd**, Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, April 7th**, Second Sunday of Easter, 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary. 11:15 a.m. Celtic Sabbath in Fellowship Hall. Regular Sunday School Schedule.



Donegal
Presbyterian
Church