

## First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter / Holy Humor Sunday  
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### ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude "The Celebrated Chop Waltz" Euphemia Allen  
Concerns of the Church ... *and we have a LOT of concerns about this place!*

#### Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

How is today's sermon like the peace of God?

***It surpasses all understanding.***

How many choir directors does it take to change a light bulb?

***No one knows, because no one ever watches the director!***

What is the greatest joke of all time?

***The one God played on death on Easter morning!***

\* Hymn 515 "I Come with Joy"  
*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***Lord of life, as we rejoice in the gift of laughter,  
we confess the ways we have abused the gift.***

***We fall short of your glory***

***when we use laughter as a weapon,***

***when we laugh at the expense of another,***

***when we use humor to tear others down,***

***or to excuse hateful beliefs and harmful stereotypes.***

***Lord, forgive us and grant us wisdom.***

***Teach us to take ourselves lightly,***

***to giggle, guffaw, and howl when the moment is right,***

***to diffuse tension with an injection of grace,***

***to distinguish between that which builds up or tears down.***

\* Silent Confession

*We need you to conclude before noon. We don't have all day.*

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Passing God's Peace to All Those Other Sinners

\* Easter Response (240)

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

### PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for God's Help in Comprehending Obscure Ancient Bible Texts

Psalter: The Very Last Psalm (OT, p. 583)

A Time with Children

Anthem

"The Royal Telephone"

Lehman

Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31 (NT, p. 115)

Sermon: "Blessed Are Those Who Arrive Late"

Wild Willie

### RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Hymn "Joy to the World" (see insert)

\* Affirmation of Faith

***We believe God takes delight in his creation,***

***that God enjoys his people,***

***that God laughs at the self-important.***

***We believe Jesus told jokes that many did not understand,***

***that he took joy in his saving work,***

***that people are still astonished to discover he is alive.***

***We believe that joy is evidence of the Holy Spirit,***

***that love is stronger than the grave,***

***that all things will work out well for those who love God.***

Only One Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering

Offertory

"Luppolo Coniglietto"

Ray Anthony

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*Please hold the bread until all are served, so that we might share it as a sign of our unity in Christ. As a sign of individual devotion and commitment, you may drink the cup as you are served.*

\* Prayer after Communion

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 254 "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude "4' 33"

John Cage

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\* All who are able shall do a somersault in the center aisle

**Today we continue to celebrate Easter** through a gentle observance of Holy Humor Sunday. This is an ancient Easter custom begun in the early centuries of Christian faith, as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with joy and laughter.

**The flowers** this morning have been given to the glory of God. They have been given by generous people who love flowers, such as

- John Conklin in loving memory of his wife, Jo, and in honor of the upcoming birthdays of John Diven and Don Keen; and
- Lonnie and Bob Lipscomb in loving memory of their parents.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Wild Willie Carter
Director of Music	St. Francis Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Pins Eyck
Liturgist	Chuckles Griffiths
Ushers	The Deacons Who Got Signed Up When They Stepped Out to Visit the Rest Room
Greeters	Formerly Grumpy People, Now Converted



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Clarks Summit, PA**  
**(570) 586-6306 [www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**

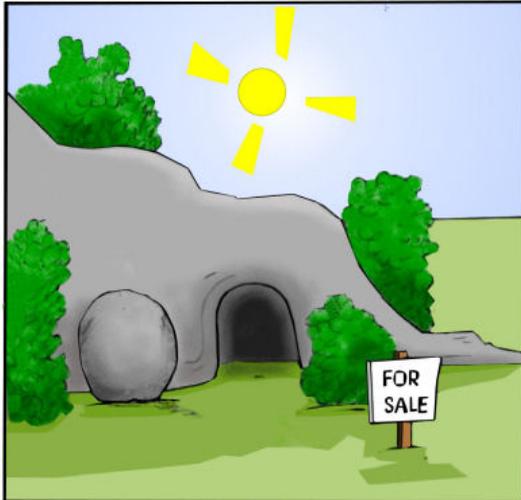
## Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord's alive. Awake, rejoice and sing!  
It's just as he had said, he's risen from the dead.  
Salvation now he brings, Salvation now he brings,  
Salvation, salvation now he brings.

Joy to the World, the empty tomb proclaims a victory.  
Of light compelling, a great dispelling  
Of darkness in the world, of darkness in the world,  
Of darkness, of darkness in the world.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



**FOR SALE** - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.



## *Psalm 150*

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty firmament!  
Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
praise him according to his surpassing greatness!  
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!  
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!  
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

## *John 20:19-31*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.