

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

5th Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

Call to Worship

Sing to the Lord a new song,

Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord, praise his name!

For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise.

Let the heavens be glad,

Let the earth be glad!

For the tomb is empty!

He is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

* Hymn 238 "Thine is the Glory"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, your love for us is unconditional, yet our love for you, for others and for ourselves is often marred. We allow prejudice and pride to blind us; our brokenness remains unhealed; we cling to old stories and hurts which impede the work of reconciliation. Forgive us, we pray, for failing to trust you, for playing it safe instead of following the daring call of your Spirit, for withholding forgiveness and grace from ourselves and others. Let your love renew us yet again. Let the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead rekindle creative life within us and restore right relations among us.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

* Response 591

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Mark 9:9-13 (NT, p. 44)

Psalter: Psalms 111 and 112 (Hymnal 755)

A Time with Children

Anthem

Second Lesson: II Kings 2:1-2. 4-14 (OT, p. 332)

Sermon: "Let Go of the Bike!"

Dr. Eelman

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 825 "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory

* Doxology (606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise Christ, all people here below! Praise Holy Spirit evermore!

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 548 "May God Support You All Your Days"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Amen (601)
- * Postlude

*All are invited to remain seated to listen to the postlude.
If you are leaving before it is finished, please do so quietly.*

* All who are able shall stand.

***The flowers** this morning have been given to the glory of God by Jack and Barbara Pittman in honor of the recent marriage of their daughter, Jennifer, to Larry Burkhart.*

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher	Rev. Dr. Brent Eelman
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Tabbi Miller-Scandle
Ushers	Drew Taylor, Ginny O'Brien
Welcomer	Lee and Mick Wirth



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

*We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, **scan here.***



Elijah ascended ^{in a} whirlwind into heaven.



2 Kings 2:11

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Mark 9:9-13

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. Then they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He said to them, "Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him."

II Kings 2:1-2, 4-14

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance

from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.