April 4th, 2021 – 10:30am

Springfield Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

Easter Sunday

*Prelude Christ Arose* Arr. Bill Ingram (Bells)

*Announcements*

*Lighting the Christ Candle*

Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim:

**People: Christ is the Light of the world and the center of our lives.**

*Gathering of the People*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

*Introit* *Now the Green Blade Rises* Arr. Shirley W. McRae. (Choir)

*Call to Worship*

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Leader: This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

**People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Leader: That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.

**People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Leader: He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

**People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Leader: At least he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim this good news to the world.

**People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

*\* Hymn Christ the Lord is Risen Today!* GtG #245

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)*

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.**

*Silent Prayers of Confession*

*Response*

Breathe on Me, Breath of God  #286   verse 2:

Breathe on me, Breath of God; until my heart is pure,

Until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

*Words of Assurance (responsive)*

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

**People: We are a forgiven people and we will be at peace! Thanks be to God!**

*The Peace*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)

*The Proclamation of the Word*

*Prayer of Illumination*

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Anthem Jesus Christ is Risen Today* Arr. Barbara Kinyon. (Bells)

*Scripture Lesson* John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and

your God.’” 18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*Sermon Arise and Blossom*

*The Response to the Word*

*\* Hymn Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* GtG#240

*The Communion of the People*

*Invitation* [1 Cor. 5:7-8]

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*Great Thanksgiving*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you, you kept faith with us.

When we were slaves in Egypt, You broke the bonds of our oppression, brought us through the sea of freedom, and made covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire You led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the word made flesh you lived among us, manifesting your glory. He died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name.

***Sanctus – GtG #552***

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch, and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice, and was mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart, and met with violence and death. By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb, and at his command the gates of hell were opened. The one who was dead now lives. The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation, the Lamb upon the throne. The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

***Memorial Acclamation – GtG#553***

*Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer*

“For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.”

Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**

And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer, taught us to pray...

**Our Father,**

**Who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.**

**On Earth as it is in Heaven**

**And 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

*Words of Institution*

We give you thanks that on the night of his arrest Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

*Sharing of the Meal*

Because there is one loaf, we, many as we are, are one body; for it is one loaf of which we partake. Let us share this meal together.

*Prayer of Dedication*

**Dear God, take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.**

**So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of the earth, and citizens of the commonwealth of Heaven.**

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Hymn Thine is the Glory* GtG #238 (sing refrain after each verse)

*Charge and Benediction*

Leader: Christ has died,

**People: To redeem his beloved.**

Leader: Christ has risen,

**People: To defy death’s sting.**

Leader: Christ will come again,

**People: To usher in God’s kingdom alive and renewed!**

*Postlude Come, Christians, Join to Sing* Arr. Bill Ingram (Bells)