April 19th, 2019 – 10:30am

Springfield Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

Holy Humor Sunday

*Announcements*

*Lighting the Christ Candle*

Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim:

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

*Gathering of the People*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

[Greetings and Announcements]

*Joke Break*

*Call to Worship*  [Variations on Psalm 66]

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name and give him glorious praise!

**People: Let us say to God – “How awesome are your deeds!”**

Leader: The earth worships you; the earth sings praise to you.

**People: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.**

Leader: He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river on foot.

**People: There we rejoiced in him, who rules by his might forever.**

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard.

**People: Let us join in joy, celebrating and worshipping our loving God!**

*\* Hymn*

I Come With Joy – GtG#515

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)*

**Generous God,**

**We are in scary times, and joy can feel far away. In our fear and anxiety, we have cast judgment on others who disagree with us. In our anguish, we are quick to place blame elsewhere. Yet, this is all part of the grieving process, so we turn our hearts faithfully to you. Forgive us when we do not give our burdens and frustrations to you and when we forget your faithfulness throughout the ages. Renew us, restore us, and reignite us with joy, even if it is a simple and quiet joy, in knowing that you walk along side us in this journey. Amen.**

*Silent Prayers of Confession*

*Words of Assurance (responsive)*

Leader: When we come to God with authenticity, asking for grace, God meets us in this space, healing our wounds and sins with joy.

**People: Thanks be to God whose grace abounds and whose love never ends. We are forgiven people. Alleluia, Amen!**

*The Peace*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

(You may greet those around you)

*Joke Break*

*The Proclamation of the Word*

*Prayer of Illumination*

*Scripture Lesson*

1 Peter 1:3-9

### A Living Hope

**3**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4**and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, **5**who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **6**In this you rejoice,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+1%3A1-10&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-30363a)] even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, **7**so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. **8**Although you have not seen[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+1%3A1-10&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-30365b)] him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, **9**for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*Time with Young People*

*Sermon*

**Inexpressible, Glorious Joy**

*The Response to the Word*

*\* Hymn*

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee – GtG#611

*Joke Break*

*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.”**

Generous God,

...

And now we, trusting in your grace and mercy, lift our joys and concerns up before You and this congregation.

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.**

*Offertory Prayer*

*Joke Break*

*Hymn*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow – GtG#606

*Joke Break*

*Charge and Benediction*

Leader: God who remains with us,

**People: Stay with us in all our emotions.**

Leader: Jesus, who defeated the powers of death

**People: Remind of us our inner strength we find in you.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, who leads us now,

**People: Help us to find the joy you offer daily.**