

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor  
Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education  
James Fowler, Seminary Intern  
James Frederick, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director  
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist  
Cecelia B. Hodges, Verse Speaking Choir Director  
Joseph Scanella Trumpeter

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April 16, 2006

10:00 a.m.

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## Resurrection of the Lord

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,  
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*Vivace*

Teleman

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### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

Leader: Sing the glad songs of victory;  
God is creating a day of newness and joy.

**People: God is our strength and our song;  
This is the day of our salvation.**

Leader: Christ has been raised from the dead,  
The first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**People: The One who was rejected assures us;  
We are accepted and beloved by God.**

Leader: We are chosen by God as witnesses to good news.  
We will live and recount the deeds of our God.

**People: God reigns; let all nations and peoples rejoice.  
In Christ, all shall be made alive.**

*All: Let us worship the living, loving God!*

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**All: With thanksgiving, praise, and joy, we worship you, marvelous God.  
How amazing is all your creation! How glorious is this day of new  
life! Come among us now, we pray, to raise us up from our fears and**

**doubts and perplexity. We want to believe. We want to trust. We want to dare. We want to live. Touch us today with a spirit of hope, that our discipleship may honor Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

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\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

#113

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Leader:** Doubters, believers, disciples, deceivers: comes to the one who makes all things new. The gates of righteousness are open to us, and a welcome awaits all who truly enter the presence of God, seeking forgiveness. The God whom we have rejected offers acceptance and healing. Let us confess our sins in God's presence.

**All:** **Dazzling God, we are blinded by your majesty. We have taken for granted the amazing wonder of life, without seeing you as the source of all things. We shrink from the chastening judgment we deserve. We resist the changes we know we must make to receive new life. Save us from the calamity of our self-centered ways. Rescue us from all hurtful and destructive habits. Forgive our broken promises, heal our broken relationships, lift our broken spirits, so we may share in the resurrection of Christ. Amen.**

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

**Congregational Response (Sung):**

#108

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is live, and comes to bring  
Good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring  
With joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Leader:** Everyone who lives by trust in Jesus Christ has already received forgiveness of sins. Accept this gift God offers. You are chosen by God to receive it. Your prayers are answered, and your salvation is assured. Christ reigns over death, filling you with newness of life. Rise up! Rejoice! Witness to the good news! Believe the good news of the Gospel;

**All:** **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

READING "Resurrection" Hymn Verse Speaking Choir  
and Chancel Choir

\*HYMN *The Day of Resurrection* #118

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:1-18 Pages 114-115

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC *Easter Canticle* Barnett

SERMON *He Is Risen – Now What?* Rev. Muriel Burrows

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids' orange page)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,  
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY *Alleluia, Praise the Lamb* Thum

\*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page) #592

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Thank you, God, for resurrection. We rejoice in Christ as the first fruits of all that you make available to us. As you offered Christ to the world, so we would offer ourselves. May we, along with our gifts, testify to good news of your forgiving love and empowering acceptance. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* #104

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION *Sonata No. 2* Keller

\* Congregation stands  
\*\* Latecomers ushered in

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WELCOME** - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609) 924-1666.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL WEEKLY FOR ALL AGE GROUPS!** Sunday school classes for adults and students in grades 5-12 begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. (The adult class is exploring the lectionary passages together each week before the service.) Students in grades 1-4 will be dismissed for their Sunday school class immediately after the children's message. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

**NURSERY CARE** is provided for children 0-5 during Sunday school (9:00) and worship (10:00). Next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Mildred Poncé.

**FLOWERS** - If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is April 23.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are Robert Ellis and Curtis Johnson. Next week's ushers are Ruppert Hawes, Maria Potts and Joan Tomlin.



**COFFEE HOUR** - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall hosted by the Deacon Board following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of April is Valerie Smith. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour may contact Valerie (609-799-1817).

### **QUOTABLE QUOTES**

- ✠ Hope is born in not knowing where you are going, but in knowing who is leading the way.
- ✠ Faith is the first thing you should put in your hope chest.
- ✠ No more do we need to ask, "Did he arise from the dead?" It is more appropriate to ask, "Did he ever die?" – Richard Niebuhr
- ✠ Christ left us that he may never leave us.
- ✠ Resuscitation means resumption of physical existence; resurrection means entry into a different kind of existence.
- ✠ Who will roll the stone away from those places where death and decay have us locked in or trapped? - Keith A. Russell
- ✠ Lent, Palm Sunday, etc., is a human response. Easter is God's response.

✚ We must roll the stone away that keeps people from coming out of their tombs.

**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, April 23, is Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31.

**ATTENDANCE** at the service of April 9 was 99.



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** – Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through *One Great Hour of Sharing* to share God's love with people experiencing need. These gifts provided aid in times of disaster, new opportunities for the hungry to feed themselves, hope and healing to people experiencing the hardship of war, and promise to those who found a new livelihood. (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance receives 36%; Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program each receives 32%.) The hundreds of millions of dollars Presbyterians have given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. Witherspoon will take the *One Great Hour of Sharing* contribution on **today**. Offering envelopes to be used for this purpose are in this bulletin.



**EASTER EGG HUNT** – Jelly beans and a Bible verse will be sanitarily placed in hidden eggs (with gloved hands). Children will place eggs they find in baskets provided by the Junior Usher Ministry. After the egg hunt they will be told about the symbol of the egg and will be given an egg with a multi-colored bracelet along with an explanation of what each color represents. Parents do not have to be outside; JUM members will watch the children.



**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** – Those who want to become members of, affiliate with, or learn more about Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church are invited to a *New Members Class* at the manse (453 Walnut Lane) **this Friday, April 21**, at 7:00 p.m. Pizza will be provided for those who confirm their plans to attend. Contact Rev. Burrows for details (609-924-1666 or mburr45@verizon.net).



**VESPER SERVICE** – Children and youth from Witherspoon and Nassau churches will join for a Vesper Service on **Sunday, April 30**, at 4:00 p.m.; the service will be held at Nassau Presbyterian Church. In preparation for the service, a workshop/practice session is planned for **this Saturday, April 22**, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this important event as part of our ongoing celebration of 250 years of Presbyterian presence in Princeton. Speak to Benjamin Colbert or Beverly Owens for more information.

**SPECIAL EDITION NOTE CARDS** and a poster featuring the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo are available for sale beginning today. These top quality items are designed as lasting

mementos of this special year in the life of our church(es). Copies are on display in the Fellowship Hall.



**BIBLE AND BAGELS** – Come for bagels, coffee, and juice **next Sunday, April 23**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and hear Dr. Peter Paris discuss

**Contemporary Challenges Confronting the Churches**

*The so-called right-wing Christian movement as symbolized by the tele-evangelist media and led by both white and black leaders, is the impetus for the birth of many mega-churches and their so-called “prosperity gospel.” The economic triumphalism of those churches overshadows all prophetic voices that address the three great evils that Martin Luther King, Jr., identified: poverty, racism and militarism. These evils could be augmented today by the following: discrimination against women, homophobia, the left-behind children in our cities, the disproportionate number of blacks and other minorities in prison and on death row; the birth of a permanent underclass here in America. Many white and black churches have been swept up in the euphoria of this new synthesis of evangelical Christianity, nationalism, and the global market.*

On **Sunday, April 30**, at 9:00 a.m., Dr. Elsie McKee will discuss

**Congo Calling! Congo Calling!**

*Where is Congo these days? Not on our world events radar, certainly. But it is/should be on our church radar. The Democratic Republic of Congo – with which American Presbyterians have been associated since 1891 when an African-American and a Caucasian-American jointly began mission work in the Kasai province – is now counted as the most severe humanitarian crisis in the world. Hundreds of thousands, even millions more have died in Congo than in the tsunami or in Darfur. In fact, there have been more conflict-related deaths in Congo since 1998 than in any other conflict since World War II. And civilians – women and children – are a huge majority of the casualties. Come find out:*

- *More about the way American Presbyterians have served the church and fought for justice in Congo*
- *More about the present horrific situation*
- *More about what we can do – with some easy ways to participate*

*Tuasakidila wa bung!*



**FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY** – The Deacons are collecting **canned fruit, vegetables and juice** for the Crisis Ministry. **\*\*\*NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.\*\*\*** Other nourishing food will also be accepted. Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may

be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



**COUNTERS DESPERATELY NEEDED!!!** – At least four people are needed to join our counting teams. Even if you are unable to count every Sunday during a designated month, you can still sign up to count on the Sundays you are available. Training provided. Please see Ron Smith or leave a message in the church office.



**PROPERTY ACQUISITION FUND UPDATE**

As of April 9, the Property Acquisition Fund has accumulated **\$83,961.18** in cash, out of a total \$110,000 we have committed to raise.



**FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY** – My children will be on spring break this week. Therefore, I will not be in the office during regular hours, but will work at home and come into the office as necessary. You may leave messages at the office (609-924-1666) or call me directly (609-581-1952). This line is dedicated to WSPC use and is equipped with an answering machine. You may e-mail the church (witherspoon@verizon.net); I will check church e-mail regularly. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I appreciate your flexibility and will gladly work with you.



**SOWING SEEDS OF JUSTICE** – Everyone is invited to *Sowing Seeds of Justice* **this Saturday, April 22**, at 3:00 p.m. at Erdmann Hall, Princeton Theological Seminary. This is a community forum with farm workers and people of faith and will be a time to learn about the struggle for justice and dignity of farm workers and how religious communities can support their brothers and sisters in the field. The Coalition of Immokalee Workers led the successful, four-year boycott of Taco Bell which led to improved farm workers’ wages and advanced their rights. Since the agreement in March 2005, the PC(USA) has continued to work as a partner with the CIW to reach out to other fast food companies. You can read more at [www.pcusa.org/fairfood](http://www.pcusa.org/fairfood).



**CANCER PREVENTION FOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS** – African-American men are 1.5 times more likely to develop prostate cancer, and about three time more like to die from the disease. African-American women develop breast cancer at a lower rate, but are two times more likely to die from it. While these statistics may seem daunting, knowing the facts and taking preventive action can help to catch these cancers at an early stage. All are invited to a seminar highlighting cancer risks, prevention and early detection for African-Americans **next Sunday, April 23**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. Registration is requested. Pick up a flyer in the Narthex for more information.



### **FOOTPRINTS – WALK THE PATH OUT OF POVERTY –**

The Peacemaking and Social Justice Team invites you to share in the Crisis Ministry's annual walk to raise consciousness and funds to help fight hunger and homelessness. The date is **next Saturday, April 29**, beginning at 8:30 a.m. We will walk along the tow path between Princeton and Kingston – a lovely place – takes only a couple of hours, so you will have the rest of the day free. Come and walk or sponsor another walker. Last year one of the Witherspoon youth was the first to complete the walk – he beat all the rest of us! Last year a Witherspoon family walked together, complete with baby stroller. Last year some of us displayed funny hats. How would you like to appear in the Witherspoon History of Footprints? Come be a part of the walk and join the story!



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

### **BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND LUNCHEON –**

Presbyterian Women of Nassau Presbyterian Church invite all Witherspoon women to the Birthday Offering Worship Service in Niles Chapel, Nassau Church, on **Monday, May 8**, at 12:00 noon. A luncheon will follow in the Assembly Room. The Birthday Offering will be received and Joyce MacKichan Walker will lead a fun, fellowship building program. Please bring a salad to share; drop off the salad in the Assembly Room by 11:45 a.m. Bus service from the Mountain Avenue parking lot to Nassau Church will depart at 11:30 a.m. For more information, you may contact Shuang Huang (609-683-0385).