

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**April 16, 2023**  
**Second Sunday of Eastertide**



**Preparation:** “Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to ignore it.” -- Attributed to the Talmud

**Prelude** Variations on *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* Michael Burkhardt  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist Based on *Gaudeamus Pariter*

**Choral Introit** *Rejoice!* C. O. Beck  
PCO Chancel Choir

**Invitation to our Shared Ministry** Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Call to Worship** Sean Clark, Liturgist

One: Christ is risen! He greets us with a word of peace.

**All We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

One: Christ is risen! Locked doors and doubting hearts cannot keep him away.

**All: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

One: Christ is risen! He comes to bless us with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**All: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

\* **Hymn #235** *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*, vs. 1-4  
[O Filii Et Filiae]

**Prayer of Confession** Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Christ is risen. Yet we often act as if he is still in the tomb. Let us confess all that turns us toward death, so we can know the grace of new life through Christ.

**All: Savior God, forgive our doubts and disbelief. You show up in our lives, yet we fail to notice you and demand more proof. We expect more when you have already given us enough. Forgive our lack of faith. Forgive our lack of gratitude. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.**

**Promise of the Gospel**

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: “Jesus came and stood among the disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you’” Know that you are forgiven and receive Christ’s peace.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.** *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

\* **Act of Praise #581**

*Gloria Patri*

**Children’s Sermon**

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

**Children’s Worship Experience**

Children ages 3-8 may depart for the Children’s Worship Experience in the Chapel after the Children’s Sermon.

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Savior God, you’ve gifted us with the Holy Spirit as our advocate and guide. Open us to the Spirit’s breath. Carry us on the wings of your wisdom. Set us on the solid foundation of your Word read and proclaimed. May we hear the truth you intend for us today. Amen.

**Scripture**

John 20:19-22

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sermon**

Sent

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Affirmation of Faith**

*From Confession of 1967 (in unison)*

9.31 To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

9.32 The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. ... In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong.

**Anthem** *For the Beauty of the Earth* John Rutter  
*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.*  
  
*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light.*  
  
*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,*  
  
[Refrain] *Lord of all to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise.*

**Minute for Mission** Edgewood Village Jayne Zuhlke

**Offering** Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*

Jean Francois Dandrieu

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Prayers of the People** Sean Clark, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

**The Lord's Prayer** "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

\* Hymn #757 *Today We All Are Called to be Disciples*, vs. 1-4  
[Kingsfold]

\* **Benediction** Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude** *The Strife Is O'er* Lisa Shoemaker-Lohmeyer  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist Based on *Victory*

\* *Please rise in body or spirit*

**Education Time:** There will be no scheduled adult education this week. Join us for the dedication of our solar panel array at 2 p.m.

**Ushers:** *Bill & Barbara Given, Ron & Barbara Dorr*

**Flowers:** *The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today were given by members and friends in honor and remembrance of loved ones.*

**This Morning's Fellowship Team:** *Thank you to the Parish Life Committee for supplying birthday cake as we celebrate our April birthdays and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee.*

**Next Week's Scripture:** Isaiah 58:8-12

**Next Week's Education Time:** The Green Team will be presenting two short videos for discussion that speak to the challenges of migrating to a clean energy economy.

Our liturgy this morning is by the Rev. Teri McDowell Ott and published in the *Presbyterian Outlook*.  
<https://pres-outlook.org/2023/04/order-of-worship-april-16-2023/> The Affirmation of Faith is from the Confession of 1967 (9.21-22) Inclusive Language Version;  
[https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/confess67.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/confess67.pdf)

*You are in an active recording environment, and your likeness may be captured in photographs and videos. By entering, you acknowledge giving consent to The Presbyterian Church of Okemos to take, own and use images containing your likeness at its sole discretion in perpetuity. If you do not wish to convey this consent, please contact a staff member immediately.*

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864  
(517) 349-9536  
Website: <https://okemospres.org>  
Email: [office@okemospres.org](mailto:office@okemospres.org)  
<https://twitter.com/okemospres>  
<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist  
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
Colleen Chester, Choir Director  
Edward Ennen, Sexton  
Anna Thiel, Office Manager