

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service on the Third Sunday of Easter**

*April 18, 2021*

Welcome

Prelude: *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* – Paul Taylor

Call to Worship

The bread of life opens our eyes.

**The word of life opens our ears.**

The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,

**and by those wounds we are healed.**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, your power makes the lame walk  
and the dead rise to new life.**

**We give you thanks for the love poured into our world  
through Christ Jesus,**

**who opened our minds to understand what you have made,  
whose appearance among his followers brings peace,  
and who creates faith through touch and taste.**

**Show us Jesus, even now,**

**through the mystery of your threefold presence,  
one God, abiding now and forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn #245: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today!*

Call to Confession

The One who calls us to repent, hears us.

In trust that our Creator knows us through and through,

let us open our hearts to the healing of God's forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

**Good and gracious God, we are creatures of dust, ignorant of your  
revelation, misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection  
among us, needing forgiveness. We repent of our failure to give as  
you have given to us. We beg your mercy for our fallen world. We seek  
your Word, that we may live with the faith of Jesus.**

**Be our solace in this life and always. We ask this as your own  
children, holy and incomplete. Forgive us and lead us. Amen.**

## Declaration of Forgiveness

In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your plea for absolution has been heard. God's promises are sure: your sins are forgiven. Peace be with you.

Gloria #582: *Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Hymn #450: *Be Thou My Vision*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

Special Music: *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon: Sorting It Out

Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967, 9.22)

**New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand except God's grace.**

Closing Hymn #526: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

Charge

The word of God assures us:  
What we will be has not yet been revealed.  
Live, therefore, with hope,  
share your joy,  
withhold your anger,  
shed your disappointments,  
turn to all people with gentleness.

Blessing

The Lord bless and keep you,  
shine upon you with grace and mercy,

and give you what is needed for each new day.

Postlude: *The Zeal of the Lord* – Anthony Giacomo

Fellowship in the Sanctuary

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by William Owen and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, used by permission.*