

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Church of Nashville

April 5, 2026 | 6:30 a.m.

Easter Sunrise Service

WORDS OF PREPARATION

Death used to be an executioner, but the gospel has made him just a gardener.

—George Herbert

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

His Heart Beats
Peterson | Shive

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 118:22–24, Luke 24:5–6

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes!

All: This is the day that the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!

All: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

*OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
LLANFAIR

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

**King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Mallory Hammond

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 45

Pastor: Friends, how does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

People: **First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection. Amen.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you,

All: And also with you.

At this time, please stand and pass a greeting to your fellow worshipers.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | John 20:11-18

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They 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." ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" 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." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for 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.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

Tears of Joy

Gage Arnold

"Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" —John 20:15

ANTHEM

Risen Indeed
Peterson | Shive

And so the winter dies with a blast of icy wind. Like a mournful cry, it's giving up the ghost again. Another sheet of snow melts away to gold and green. Look at Peter go, he's racing to the tomb to see. Where has my Jesus gone? He is not dead. He is risen, risen indeed. And now the flowers bloom like a song of freedom. Behold the earth is new, if only for the season. And so the seed that died for you becomes a seedling. Just put your hand into the wound that bought your healing. And let your heart believe, he is not dead, he is risen, risen indeed. And the rain will fall on the furrow, it immerses the earth in sorrow. Mary, the sun will rise again. Mary, the sun will rise again. Daughter, listen, listen. Daughter, listen. He speaks your name. And Father Abraham could not have dreamed of this, could never understand the end of all those promises, how all the pieces fit, every star and grain of sand, is safely hid in Jesus' hand. Let every tongue confess, he is not dead, he is risen, risen. He is not dead, he is risen, risen indeed. Oh Mary, the sun will rise again. Mary, the sun will rise again. Daughter, listen, listen. Daughter, listen. He speaks your name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven and Voices Raise
HYMN TO JOY

**Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise.
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
He, who on the cross a victim, for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.
Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born,
glorious life, and life immortal, on the holy Easter morn.
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by his mighty enterprise.
We with him to life eternal by his resurrection rise.
Christ is risen, Christ, the first fruits of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield.
Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.
Christ is risen, we are risen! Shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face.
That we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

** Those who are able, please stand.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*
Stephen King, Musician

EASTER BREAKFAST

7:00–10:45 a.m. | Courtenay Hall

All are welcome to enjoy the Easter Breakfast following the service.
Please enter the Narthex and use the stairwells to enter Courtenay Hall.

Get Connected

First Presbyterian Church of Nashville exists as a community of believers—a faithful outpost where we worship, grow, and serve together in Christ. Your presence strengthens this community, and together we reflect God’s love and faithfulness to one another and to the world around us. We invite you to stay connected and engaged, so that together we can be our fullest expression as God’s family.

There are many ways to find your place at FPC—on Sundays, during the week, and in smaller communities designed for connection and growth. For information on any of the below offerings, contact Dr. Darren Kennedy at dkennedy@fpcnashville.org or Ellie Richmond erichmond@fpcnashville.org.

Sundays | 9:45 a.m.

Choose from ten Adult Sunday School classes, offering space to learn, build friendships, and grow in faith. Full list at fpcnashville.org/Sunday-school.

Mondays, Apr. 13–May 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m.

Women’s Intergenerational Esther Study, led by Rev. Mallory Hammond and Ellie Richmond.

Tuesdays | 7:00 a.m. | Vance Hall

Men’s Bible Study, led by Dr. Sandra Randleman.

Wednesdays | 6:00 a.m. | Vance Hall

Men’s Bible Study, led by Gage Arnold and Scott Dalton.

Wednesdays | 11:30 a.m. | Session Room

Bible study and lunch, led by Dr. Ryan Moore.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 6 | Church Office Closed for Easter Monday
Apr. 7 | 4:30 p.m. | The Space Between: Holding both Hope and Heartache
April 8, 22 | 12:30-2:30 p.m. | Daytime Mahjong Open Play
April 8, 15, 22, 29 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Evening Mahjong Lessons
Apr 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18 | 9:30–11:00 a.m. | Intergenerational Esther Women’s COB
May 3 | 11:00 a.m. | Ordination of Gage Arnold
May 4 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | PW Handiwork Drop-in
May 12 | 10:30 a.m. | Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering
May 13, 27 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Evening Mahjong Open Play
May 14 | 11:00 a.m. | Ascension Day Service
May 14 | 12:00 p.m. | Ascension Day Lunch
May 17 | Kirkin’ Sunday

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Apr. 12 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | Bible Milestone (4 yrs. & 3rd Grade)
Apr. 19 | 9:45 a.m. | Missions Milestone (4th-5th Grade)
Apr. 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmation Sunday
June 23-25 | 5:00-7:45 p.m. | Amazing VBS!

FIRST FRIENDS

Apr. 16 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon
Apr. 21 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *Connie: A Memoir*
Apr. 23 | 12:00 p.m. | First Friends and OHS Game Day
Apr. 28 | Day Trip: Home of Helen Keller
May 7 | 10:30 a.m. | Natchez Trace Picnic on the Parkway
May 19 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *Sipsworth*
May 21 | 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon: Mission Presentation from Matthew 25

MISSIONS

Apr. 14 | 4:30–7:30 p.m. | Nueva Vida Service Project
Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive
Apr. 19 | 4:30–6:30 p.m. | Matthew 25 Meal
July 18-25 | Intergenerational Mission Trip
Sept. 14-25 | Kenya Mission Trip

RECREATION

Apr. 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16 | 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Soccer Saints
Wednesdays | 5:30–8:00 p.m. | Pickleball (Except May 6)

YOUTH

Apr. 19 | 2:00–3:30 p.m. | Senior Blessing
Apr. 26 | 9:45 a.m. | Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
May 3 | 8:30 a.m. | Youth Sunday
Jun. 1-5 | Pilgrimage to Yosemite (Seniors)