

***Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church***  
**March 31, 2024            9:15am**

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

( \* = please stand )

Prelude

*“Alive! Alive! My Jesus is Alive”*

Opening Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Molly Allen

Call to Worship

One: This is the day:

**All: when tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended;  
fears are replaced with joy.**

One: This is the day the Lord:

**All: rolls away the stone of fear; throws off death's clothes;  
goes ahead of us into God's future.**

One: This is the day the Lord has made:

**All: death has no fear for us; sin has lost its power over us; God  
opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.**

One: This is the day - Easter Day!

**All: Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!**

Opening Hymn #108 Blue Hymnal

*“Christ is Alive”*

Scripture

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (pg. 436)

Hymn #39 Red Book

*“He Lives”*

Prayer of Confession

One: Very early in the morning, God created all that is good and beautiful. Very early in the morning, a mother placed her newborn in a manger. Very early in the morning, the good news was shared with

frightened friends, that Jesus was risen and alive in our midst. Let us confess the fears and the amazement we bring this morning.

**All: On this morning of hallelujahs, we must confess how human we are, Emptier of tombs. We haven't done any great evil, but we have failed to do good when we had the chance. We have not intentionally hurt anyone, nor have we offered healing to the broken. We easily accept the witness of the angel in the tomb, but find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbors.**

**(Time of silent confession)**

**Bring us new life, Dazzling God. Where we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation; transform our hardened hearts into fountains of grace; forgive us of all the damage we have done, and fill us with the joy of your Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, who gives us new life, we pray.**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

One: God, our Creator, gives us new life; Christ, our Redeemer, prepares a Table for us; Holy Spirit, our Joy, calls us to service. This is the good news: the tomb is empty, sin is powerless, death is defeated forever.

**All: On this very first day, and every day, we walk as God's people, forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri #577

*Congregation*

***Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;***

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**

*(Please pass signs of peace and forgiveness with those seated around you)*

## Sharing Joys & Concerns

### Pastoral Prayer

*Rev. Dr. Michael Askew*

*The Lord's Prayer* (pg. 16, Blue Hymnal)

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

#### Scripture

*Mark 16: 1-8 (pg.722)*

#### Anthem

"Gone"

Choir

#### Sermon

"When The Stone is Rolled Away"

Rev. Dr. Michael Askew

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*The Apostle's Creed (pg. 14)

*Congregation*

#### Call to Offering

#### Offertory

*"Because He Lives"*

Choir

#### \*Doxology

*Congregation*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him,  
all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

*Rev. Dr. Michael Askew*

### **BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

#### \*Charge and Blessing

*Rev. Dr. Michael Askew*

We leave now in order to follow God into the world.

***All: We will go to bring the healing and peace of Jesus to all.***

#### \*Sung Benediction *(Please face the center)*

*Congregation*

**All: May the Lord, Mighty Lord bless and keep you forever.**

**Grant you peace, perfect peace, and courage in every endeavor.**

**Lift your eyes and see His face, see His grace forever.**

**May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever.**

