

First Presbyterian Church of Alton

Fourth & Alby Streets, Alton, Illinois (618)465-3592 firstpres1831@gmail.com

Third Sunday of Easter

10 AM Sunday, May 4, 2025

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *"Day of Arising"*

Carl Schalk

Welcome and Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP

We glorify you, O Lord, for you have lifted us up.

O Lord, our God, we cried out to you, and you healed us.

Sing praises to the Lord, O faithful ones, and praise God's holy name.

For God's anger is but for a moment, but God's favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

O God, you have turned our mourning into dancing! Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Selfless Christ, though we rejected your teachings, you poured out your life for us anyway. In your resurrection, you continue to nourish us with your steadfast love and the power of your Spirit. Enliven our hearts, that we might share the nourishment we have received and feed your people. **Amen**

★ **Hymn:** *"Blessing and Honor.....*.....No. 147

CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ Jesus came to save us, not because of our works, but according to the mercy of God through the water of rebirth the renewal of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Christ our Savior gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from our sin and claim us as his own people. **Amen**

THE PEACE

Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

✦ **Gloria Patri**.....No. 579

Choral Anthem " *Our God Our Help in Ages Past* "

arr. John Behnke
(Text No. 210)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, by the power of your Spirit, reveal your will to us today through your word, read and proclaimed. Help us to understand your creative, redemptive, and consoling work, and lead us into the world, filled with your Spirit, to proclaim, baptize, and teach in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

FIRST READING

Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20)
(Pg 127)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalms 30
(Pg 505)

SECOND READING

Revelation 5: 11-14
(Pg 248)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John
Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL LESSON

John 21: 1-19
(Pg 115)

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Message.....Pastor Ian Edward Caveny

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

✦ **Hymn:** *"Be Thou My Vision"*No. 339

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

(Pg 14)

SENDING

OFFERING

Offertory Anthem: *" Worthy is the Lamb "* arr. Dan Galbraith
(insert)

✦ **DOXOLOGY**.....No. 592 (*Lyrics only*)

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

✦ **Hymn:** *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*No. 151

✦ **CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *"Improvisation on Saint Anne"*

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### PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY:

Message.....Reverend Ian Caveny  
Liturgist.....John Frew  
Music Coordinator.....Mark Brooks  
Audio/Streaming Technician.....Claudia Droste  
Ushers this Sunday will be.....Greg & Debbie Gates

**NOTE:** Where you see the " ✦ " symbol, please stand if you are able.

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**Announcements:** Session meeting Tuesday May 6th

May 25: Deacons meeting after worship in the Library.

May Birthdays: Susan Monical (05), Jim Sinclair (08), Alison File (14) Marcia Gaskill (29)

Every 3rd Sunday cash in the offering plate goes to the Simpson Fund that supports the Good Neighbor bags at Saturday Café.

**Outreach:** Saturday Café and Tuesday's Soup's On; Lunch served at 11:30, Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are welcome.

Adult Bible Study: Thursday mornings at 9:30, Flota Conference Room.

**Prayer List:** Virginia Schildroth, Celia Sinclair, Bruce Eglehoff, family of Gene Frizzo, kidney results for John Thompson, The family of Edward M. Black Jr, Kathleen Stice, Margaret Wills, World peace.

Members (and spouses) at home or living elsewhere: Donna McCoy, Linda and Gary Smith, Judy and Lyndall Colburn, Gladys Butler, Ann and Larry Wangelin, Jim Wigger.

**Information: Over 55 Group**—We still have 11 tickets to see Glenn Miller's orchestra at the Sheldon on Monday May 19th at 7pm. The cost is \$140 which includes the ticket to the show, the bus and dinner. Please contact Jackie Wiseman if you are interested.

Over 55 group was started in 1993 by Clyde Wiseman to provide monthly outings for the four Presbyterian churches in the Alton area which were all diminishing in membership.