

***Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas***  
**First Presbyterian Church—Winnsboro, TX**  
**Dr. John Coleman**

**April 27, 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

The Chimes, the Flames, and the Waters

Greetings and Announcements

\*=Stand, if able

**We Prepare to Receive the Word**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship (Responsive)**

God of peace, we enter this holy room knowing the gospel's cornerstones of grace and mercy are often rejected in our world.

**Yet we understand that rejection is not the end of the story.**

We know that those we have come to know as the builders and the rulers of the world do not have the final word.

**The Gospel of Grace is the Lord's doing.**

Despite powers and principalities, despite the clamoring of meanness and cruelty,

**this is the day that the Lord has made.**

Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

**Let us rejoice and be glad. Let us worship God!**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Hymn: #113 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!"**

**Confession - Unison**

**Holy God, we have found ourselves in fear, locked in rooms of inaction and indecision, unclear where we are called or what we could offer. We have lost ourselves in anxiety so loud we have not heard your voice. We have not recognized you on the move in the world, wounds in your side and life in your lungs. We have believed in the finality of your death and assumed all is left to our own meager efforts. We have refused to see, so we might not have to believe the gospel and live our lives accordingly. p1 God of new life,**

**restore hope throughout our bodies. Help us to breathe again. Strengthen us for the joy that is before us. Grant us eyes to see your beloved people all around us and ears to hear your good news through all the noise. Even as we have looked away, come to see us, call us forth from our locked rooms and bring us out to walk with you in the world you so love. Amen.**

*[a moment for silent confession]* **Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\*The Gloria Patri--"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen."**

**We Receive the Word**

**The Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading: Psalm 150 @**

**New Testament Reading: Revelation 1:4-8 @**

**Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31**

@- This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Sermon: "The Power of Unseen Faith"**

**We Respond to The Word**

**\*Hymn: #118 "The Day of Resurrection!"**

**\*Affirmation of Faith: (from A Brief Statement of Faith)**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the broken hearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead,**

vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

#### Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

#### The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

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

\*The Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn: #467 "How Great Thou Art"

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Benediction response: #106 "Alleluia, alleluia! Give Thanks" (Refrain)  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name

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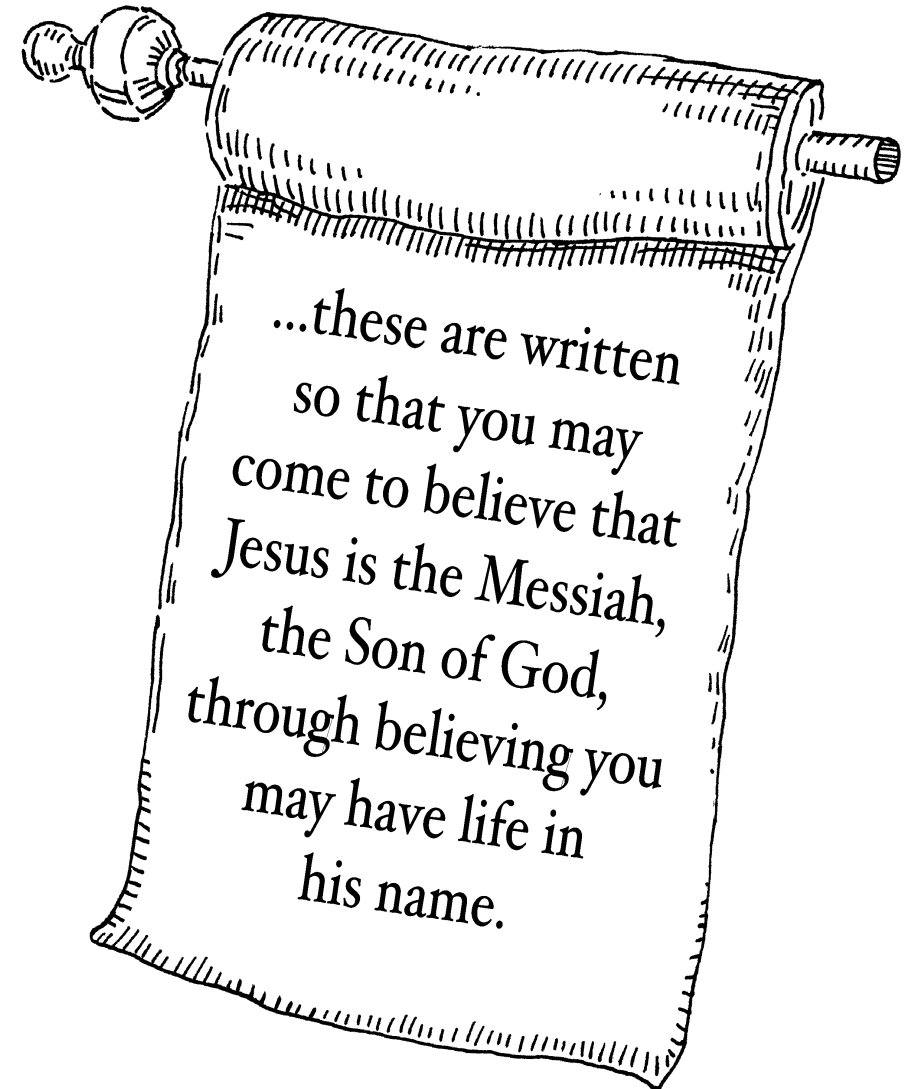
#### *To our guest*

*We are so glad that you joined us today. We believe that it was no accident that you came here, and that God has given us the opportunity to share the love, grace, and saving gospel of Jesus with you. And so, it is our prayer that you feel loved in this place, and we want you to know that you are welcome no matter what is going on in your life. We will embrace you with the same grace that God has embraced us with, and we will proclaim to you the same good news that has called us and saved us. If you want to make this church your home, and these people your family let us know after the service or by phone or email later this week. We would love to welcome you into Jesus' family.*

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John 20:31