

MARY MAGDALENE AS FIRST WITNESS



AND THUS FIRST AMONG THE APOSTLES

First Apostle to the Apostles, 2008. Artist: Miller, Mary Jane.

**Service for the Lord's Day**

April 5, 2026  
Easter Day

**Gathering Around the Word of Worship**

**Gathering Music** Mike Kanan

**Striking of the Hour**

**Prelude** *Easter Celebration*

Don Besig

*Christians join in celebration. Let the bells of Easter ring! Come in praise and adoration. Let your hearts be glad and sing: Alleluia! Hail to Christ our risen King! He is alive!*

Chancel Choir, Chancel Brass, Organ

**Welcome**

*We Rise in Spirit and in Body*

**Call to Worship** (responsive)

from Psalm 118

The LORD is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation.

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. We will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

**The LORD has done this; and it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Opening Hymn 232**

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession** (unison)

**God our Savior, your glory shines bright in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise your death-defeating grace and power. God of new life, forgive our life-alienating ways, our rejection and judgment of others; the way we compare and put down. Forgive our death-dealing sins, our habits that demean and degrade, our addiction to violent and destructive behavior. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.**

*A Silence is observed for Personal Confession*

**Confessional Hymn 518**

*Your Only Son*

**LAMB OF GOD**

*You're only Son no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.*

**Refrain:** *O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*

*I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. to Refrain*

### **Declaration of Good News** (responsive)

"Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

**But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

In Christ's victory over death, your sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Passing the Peace** (responsive)

Christ's victory over the grave is our peace. The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Young Christians are welcomed to the front to go to Children's Church**

## ***Hearing the Word***

*All Sit*

### **Prayer for Illumination** (unison)

**God our Redeemer, bearer of life, open us to the wisdom of your Word today and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from all that distracts and turns us from your path. Guide us and ground us in Christ's everlasting hope. Amen.**

### **New Testament Epistle Reading** (responsive)

Colossians 3:1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

**Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.**

### **Anthem**

*On the Third Day*

Allen Pote

*Jesus was crucified. He died and was buried. On the third day Christ arose. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end. Christ is risen from the dead, He is risen as He said, He is alive, Alleluia! Christ has conquered death and sin, died for us our souls to win.*

Beth Pope, soprano, Chancel Choir, Chancel Brass, Organ

### **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

### **Sermon**

*Raised with Christ*

Rev. Kyle Otterbein

## ***Responding to the Word***

*All Stand*

**Response Hymn 238**

*Thine Is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

*All Sit*

**Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

from *Book of Common Worship*

**This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

*All Sit*

**Offering**

*Call to Offering*

**Offertory Hymn**

*Christ lag in Todesbanden*  
verses 1 & 2

Samuel Scheidt

*All Stand*

**Doxology**

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.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** (unison)

**God of the empty tomb, your grace astounds, your generosity fills us to overflowing. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ's spirit. Amen.**

### ***Sealing the Word in the Sacrament***

*All Sit*

**The Lord's Supper**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving** (responsive)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Life up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

...Therefore, we join our voices with the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name....

**SANCTUS**

**SANCTUS**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

**Communion Anthem**

*Agnus Dei*

Victor C. Johnson

*Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world have mercy on us. Lamb of God who  
takes away the sins the sins of the world grant us peace.*

Chancel Choir

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

*A Moment of Silence*

*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.*

***Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World***

*All Stand*

**Closing Hymn 248**

*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

HYMN TO JOY

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Nun lob mein Seel den Herren, variation 2*

Michael Praetorius

.....  
*\*Notes: Some parts of today's liturgy are adapted from liturgy written by Rev. Teri McDowell Ott.*

**Chancel Brass**

*Joseph Powers, Kevin Briley - Trumpet Emily Britton - Horn  
Jake Tabor - Trombone Jim Stites - Bass Trombone/Tuba*



## *Announcements*

**USHERS:** Polen and Thomison families

**COMMUNION SERVERS:** Pamela Napier, Sheila Reeves and Larry Warden

**COMMUNION PREPARERS/CLEANUP:** Jean Harris

**COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE** Sammy Del Rey, Blake Miller, Keelin Murrell, Mack Overfelt, and Johnna Smith

**LAY READER:** Larry Warden

**MEDIA PERSONNEL:** Laura Parkerson

**NURSERY:** Yamilet Bruno Sanchez and Maya Swartz

**LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY APRIL 12:** Acts 2:14a, 22–32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3–9; John 20:19–31

### TODAY

**DEACON OF THE WEEK** this week will be Evan Goad. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

**BUCK IN A BASKET** for today will go to support Presbyterian Scholarship Fund. Buck in a Basket Offering is a weekly opportunity to consider contributing during the offering for a particular mission not included in our regular budget.

**THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP** will NOT meet today. They will resume on April 12 and will gather at Poke Fresh, 2710 Nashville Road. This group is for people who like to go out to eat after church and enjoy visiting with others. We hope you can join us for delicious food and great conversation!

### OTHER NEWS

**OFFICE CLOSED** The office will be closed on Monday, April 6 in observance of Easter.

**LUNCH WITH LEADERS** will take place next Sunday, April 12, immediately following the worship service in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Kyle began this new monthly experience for people new to us called “Lunch with Leaders”. Every month on the second Sunday, Pastor Kyle and a couple of our elders or staff will provide a light sandwich meal for guests and newcomers.

**SATURDAY MEALS** The Presbyterian Church is scheduled for Saturday Meals delivery only on April 18. We are teaming up with a group from WKU who will handle sorting and kitchen service. We are in need of the following volunteers:

- 5 More volunteers to cover the delivery 8:30-9:30
- 1 More volunteer 8:00 - 9:00 to assist with car line and loading with Susan
- 1 volunteer to pick up from Panera on Thursday, 4/16, and Friday, 4/17, evening at closing

**YOUTH MEALS** Are you interested in providing a home-cooked meal or purchasing a meal for our youth? We are seeking volunteers for meals for our youth during our Sunday group meeting. If you are interested in volunteering, a sign-up sheet is available in the church landing.

**SAVE THE DATE** The Otterbein Reception will take place on Sunday, April 26 at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Sandy Franklin. Please come and join us in this heart-felt going-away celebration honoring Pastor Kyle and LeAnn as we thank them for their love, leadership, and the countless ways they've blessed our church family.

**SAVE THE DATE** Cecelia Memorial will be taking donations for the upcoming 7th Annual Spring Giveaway at 716 College Street. They will be accepting anything from clothing to household items to toys. The date for the event will be Saturday, May 16 from 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. Call or text Lovelyn Williams at 619-368-2103 if you have or donation or questions regarding the event. Thank you for your help in advance.

**SAVE THE DATE** The Lane Celebration will take place on Sunday, May 31, at 12:00 p.m. after worship service in Fellowship Hall. Please come join us for this joyful celebration to warmly welcome our new pastor, Rev. Patrick Lane, and his wife, Rev. Brittany Lane, as they begin their ministry with us, and to surround them with love, support, and gratitude as they join our church family. This will be a Bowling Green/Kentucky themed Potluck.

**OUR NEW DIRECTORY**—You can now access our church directory through an app on your



cell phone or tablet. Just scan the QR code to go directly to the app to download it on your phone or tablet. Once you download the app, you will be directed to search for the directory of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green. Just use your email address to gain entry to our directory (you must have your email address that is in the directory to gain access).



**LAY READERS NEEDED FOR APRIL/MAY** A signup page is online for lay readers in the coming weeks. If you are willing to serve one Sunday, please scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date. Lay reader information will be emailed on the Friday prior to the date. Thank You!



## WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by the minister, officers, and congregation.

**Clerk of Session:** Debbie Trickey    **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

**Elders:** Class of 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, Claire Ellington, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2028-Clark Carthrae, Buzz English, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; **Deacons:** Class of 2026-Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Laura Parkerson, Dan Stelling, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028-Nancy English, Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.

### The Presbyterian Church Staff

*Transitional Pastor*  
*Director of Student Ministries*  
*Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director*  
*Children's Music Director*  
*Organist*  
*Financial Administrator*  
*Treasurer*  
*Office Coordinator*  
*Director, Preschool Learning Center*  
*Custodian*  
*Clerk of Session*  
*Sound Attendant/Sunday Sexton*

*Rev. Kyle Otterbein*  
*Mrs. Lilly Hunter*  
*Dr. Wayne Pope*  
*Mrs. Beth Pope*  
*Dr. Nathaniel Brown*  
*Mrs. Terry Johnson*  
*Mr. Steve Moore*  
*Mrs. Robin Watkins Tolbert*  
*Ms. Kimberly Watkins*  
*Mr. Cedric Whitney*  
*Mrs. Debbie Trickey*  
*Ms. Laura Parkerson*

Visit Our Church Website: <https://bgpres.org>



**Donate Online:** The church website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, accepts online donations. Just go to our website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan this QR code:



### Calendar

**Sunday, April 5**    **HAPPY EASTER!**  
7:30 a.m.    Sunrise Service  
10:30 a.m.    Easter Celebration Service

**Monday, April 6**    **OFFICE CLOSED**  
9:00 a.m.    GOD/DOG is Love  
12:00 p.m.    Personnel Meeting  
6:00 p.m.    Deacons Meeting  
7:00 p.m.    Youth Ministry Meeting

**Tuesday, April 7**  
11:00 a.m.    Special Care  
12:00 p.m.    Inspirational Meditation

**Wednesday, April 8**  
7:00 a.m.    Breakfast Group  
9:30 a.m.    Wed. Morning Young Mothers and Others Circle  
5:00 p.m.    Chancel Choir  
6:00 p.m.    Worship Committee Meeting

**Friday, April 10**  
7:30 a.m.    Men's Breakfast Group

**Saturday, April 11**  
11:00 a.m.    Celebration of Life- Merrilyn Calhoun

**The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101**

270-843-4707 • [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

**Pastor Kyle Otterbein • [kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org](mailto:kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org) • 319-400-6546**