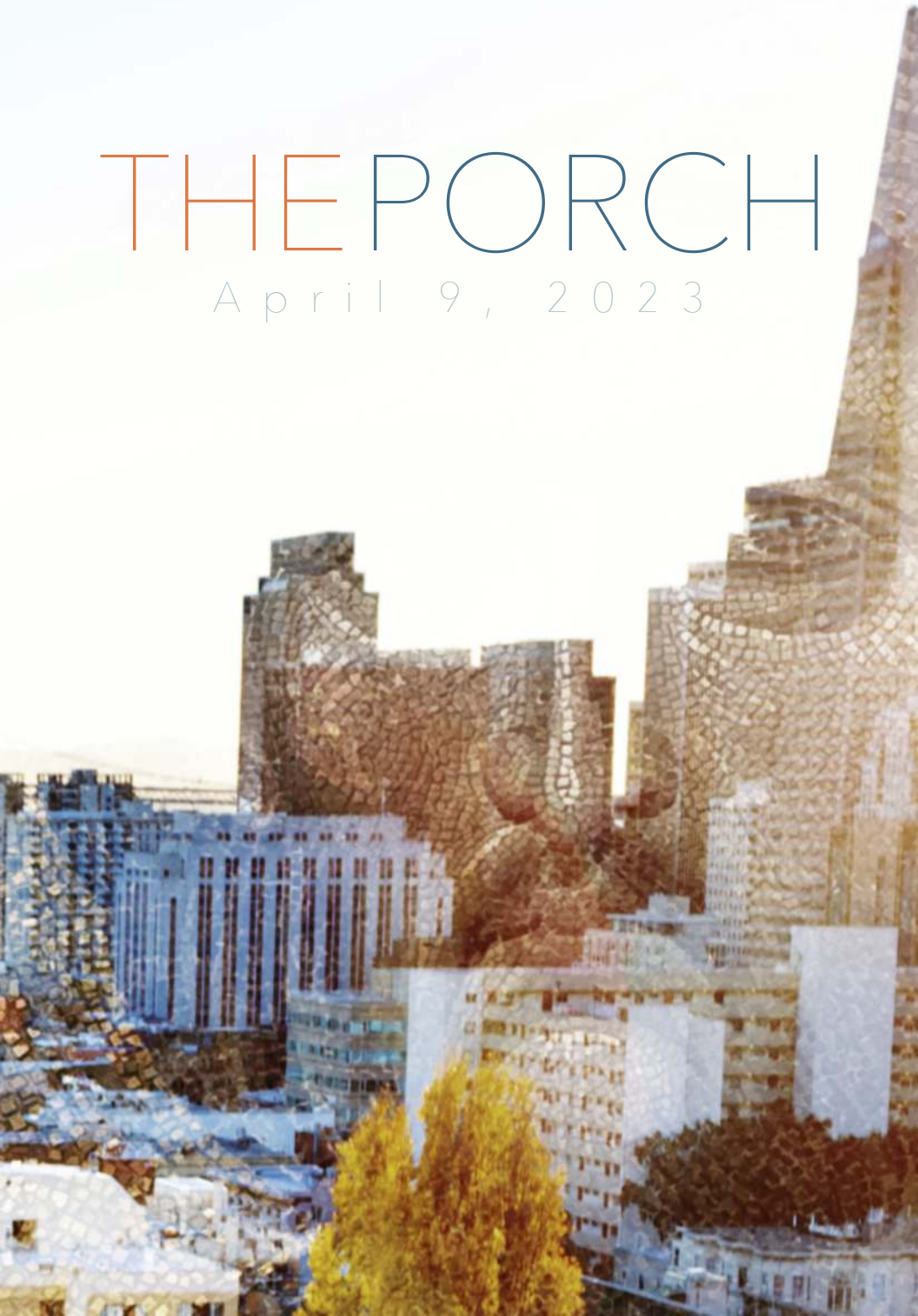


# THE PORCH

April 9, 2023



## About Our Liturgy

We are all creatures of habit. Habits and rhythms shape who we are. Our Sunday gatherings are designed to help us press the story of Jesus into our souls and change who we are by repeating that same story over and over again.

Every week we gather to remember and celebrate these same old gospel truths: that we are sinners but we have a great savior. That the death and resurrection of Jesus brought his kingdom here. That we have been adopted into the family of God. That he has called us to love each other and our city. That we were created for a perfect world, and that this world is not all there is.

So we invite you to participate with us as a group of imperfect people who tell the same story over and over again, the story of King Jesus.





## Call To Worship

### Singing

\* The American author David Foster Wallace wrote, "In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship." This is a powerful statement from a man who was not a follower of Jesus. He was 100% correct. We all have something at the center of our lives. Something that we believe will make us happy. Something that will fulfill us. Even those who follow Jesus often find that we are serving idols, something that ultimately won't fulfill us.

The gospel story tells us what will: Jesus Christ. Only he can fulfill us. Only he can redeem us. Only he can heal our deep spiritual wounds. Only he can give hope. Serving him as king is why we were created. This is why we open our gatherings with worship. Music touches our souls in a way that nothing else can. And so we use music as the people of God have done for thousands of years to remind ourselves that we serve an amazing King and that only he should be at the center of our lives.



## Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, alleluia  
Sons of men and angels say, alleluia  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, alleluia  
Sing ye heavens and earth reply, 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

Love's redeeming work is done, alleluia  
Fought the fight the battle won, alleluia  
Death in vain forbids Him rise, alleluia  
Christ hath opened paradise, 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

## **Christ Is Risen**

### **Verse 1**

Let no one caught in sin remain  
Inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely You've bled for us

### **Chorus**

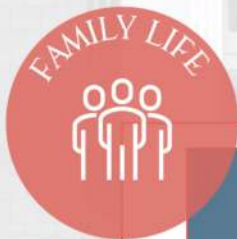
Christ is risen from the dead  
Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead  
We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake  
Come and rise up from the grave

### **Verse 2**

Beneath the weight of all our sin  
You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown  
No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign  
Forever let Your church proclaim

### **Bridge**

O, death, where is your sting  
O, hell, where is your victory  
O, church, come stand in the light  
The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O, death, where is your sting  
O, hell, where is your victory  
O, church, come stand in the light  
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive



new here?  
let us know who you are  
[porchsf.com/sunday](http://porchsf.com/sunday)

#### VISITOR CONNECT

Name\*

Email

Phone Number

Message



subscribe to the podcast  
[porchsf.com/sermons](http://porchsf.com/sermons)



\* One of the beautiful facets of the gospel is how it brings all kinds of people together (Galatians 3:28). We are God's people. We are called to live our lives together and to love one another. In this part of our gathering, we celebrate this truth. We pray for each other. We chat while getting coffee and tea. We talk about what's going on in the life of the family.



Chapter 4 & Morality Articles on  
Wednesday, April 26



**Ezekiel**  
**JOURNALS**

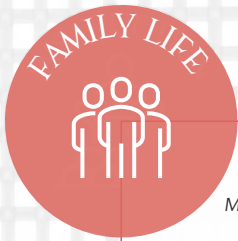
THE BIBLE SOCIETY

NEW TEACHING SERIES STARTS FEBRUARY 5  
GRAB YOUR JOURNAL ON THE BACK TABLE



**POTP**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22**  
**NOON TO MIDNIGHT**  
**ON POLK STREET**



## Prayer

*Monthly Schedule*

**Week 1:** We read a prayer from church history.

**Week 2:** We take requests and pray for each other.

**Week 3:** Congregational Prayer.

**Week 4:** Praying the Psalms.

**Week 5:** We take requests and pray for each other.

## Coffee

This quick time of greeting isn't a break in the worship but rather a continuation of our worship. Take five minutes to grab a cup of coffee and say hello to someone you haven't met yet.







## New City Catechism

**Question 15:** Since no one can keep the law, what is its purpose?

**Answer:** That we may know the holy nature and will of God, and the sinful nature and disobedience of our hearts; and thus our need of a Savior. The law also teaches and exhorts us to live a life worthy of our Savior.

\* 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." God's word is precious. This time is less about the words of the preacher and more about the words of God. So here at The Porch we usually go through an entire book of the Bible verse by verse. We want to soak up the truth. We want to see Jesus on every page. We want to know the gospel better than we did yesterday. When that happens, we will be more loving, more humble, more hopeful, more joyful, and more blown away by what we learn about our King.



## Scripture Reading

Acts 10:34-43 (CSB)

Peter began to speak:

“Now I truly understand that God doesn’t show favoritism, **but in every nation the person who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.** He sent the message to the Israelites, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ — **he is Lord of all.**”

You know the events that took place throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how he went about doing good and healing all who were under the tyranny of the devil, **because God was with him.**

We ourselves are witnesses of everything he did in both the Judean country and in Jerusalem, **and yet they killed him by hanging him on a tree. God raised up this man on the third day** and caused him to be seen, not by all the people, but by us whom God appointed as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be the judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him **that through his name everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins.**”



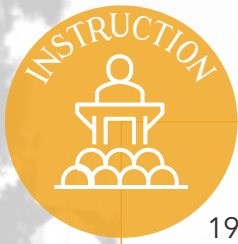
## John 20 | Doubting Thomas

**Os Guinness** Our English word doubt comes from the Latin *dubitare* which is rooted in an Aryan word meaning "two" ...to believe is to be "in one mind" about accepting something as true; to disbelieve is to be "in one mind" about rejecting it. To doubt is to waver between the two, to believe and disbelieve at once and so to be "in two minds".

**James 1:6** ...the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

**1 Kings 18:21** And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." And the people did not answer him a word.

**1 Kings 10:1-3** Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. 2 She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. 3 And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her.



## John 20:19-21;24-29

19 When it was evening on that first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together with the doors locked because they feared the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 Having said this, he showed them his hands and his side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you."

24 But Thomas (called "Twin"), one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples were telling him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in his hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

26 A week later his disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Don't be faithless, but believe."

28 Thomas responded to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."





## Singing

\* In the sermon we listened to the gospel preached. Here, we respond with worship. We sing the praises of the God who has saved us and given us hope.



## Confession & Lament Communion Singing

\*The gospel is not the story of what we do to earn God's love. The gospel is the story of what God has done to bring us back to life. The problem is that we are forgetful and we all constantly slip into moralism where we think that we need to live a certain way to earn God's love. This is the time in our gathering where we intentionally confess our sin and take communion to remind us of the grace of God. We remember that we are not redeemed by doing anything. We are redeemed by the death of Jesus in our place.



## Benediction

### Jude 24-25

<sup>24</sup> Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, <sup>25</sup> to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

\*We are not just followers of King Jesus for a few hours on Sunday morning. We are ambassadors of his kingdom everywhere we go. With our families. At work. With our friends and neighbors. So every week, we finish our gatherings by remembering that we represent him everywhere we go and that we are called to radically love people so that they see him in our lives.

## Beautiful

I see Your face in every sunrise  
The colors of the morning are inside Your eyes  
The world awakens in the light of the day  
I look up to the sky and say

You're beautiful

I see Your power in the moonlit night  
Where planets are in motion and galaxies are bright  
We are amazed in the light of the stars  
It's all proclaiming who You are

You're beautiful

I see You there hanging on a tree  
You bled and then You died  
And then You rose again for me  
Now You are sitting on Your heavenly throne  
Soon we will be coming home

You're beautiful

When we arrive at eternity's shore  
Where death is just a memory and tears are no more  
We'll enter in as the wedding bells ring  
Your bride will come together and we'll sing

You're beautiful

## **Death In His Grave**

### **Verse 1**

Though the earth cried out for blood  
Satisfied her hunger was  
Billows calmed on raging seas  
For the souls of men she craved  
Sun and moon from balcony  
Turned their head in disbelief  
Precious Love would taste the sting  
Disfigured and disdained

### **Chorus**

On Friday a thief, on Sunday a King  
Laid down in grief, but woke with the keys  
Of hell on that day, first born of the slain  
The Man Jesus Christ, laid death in His grave

### **Verse 2**

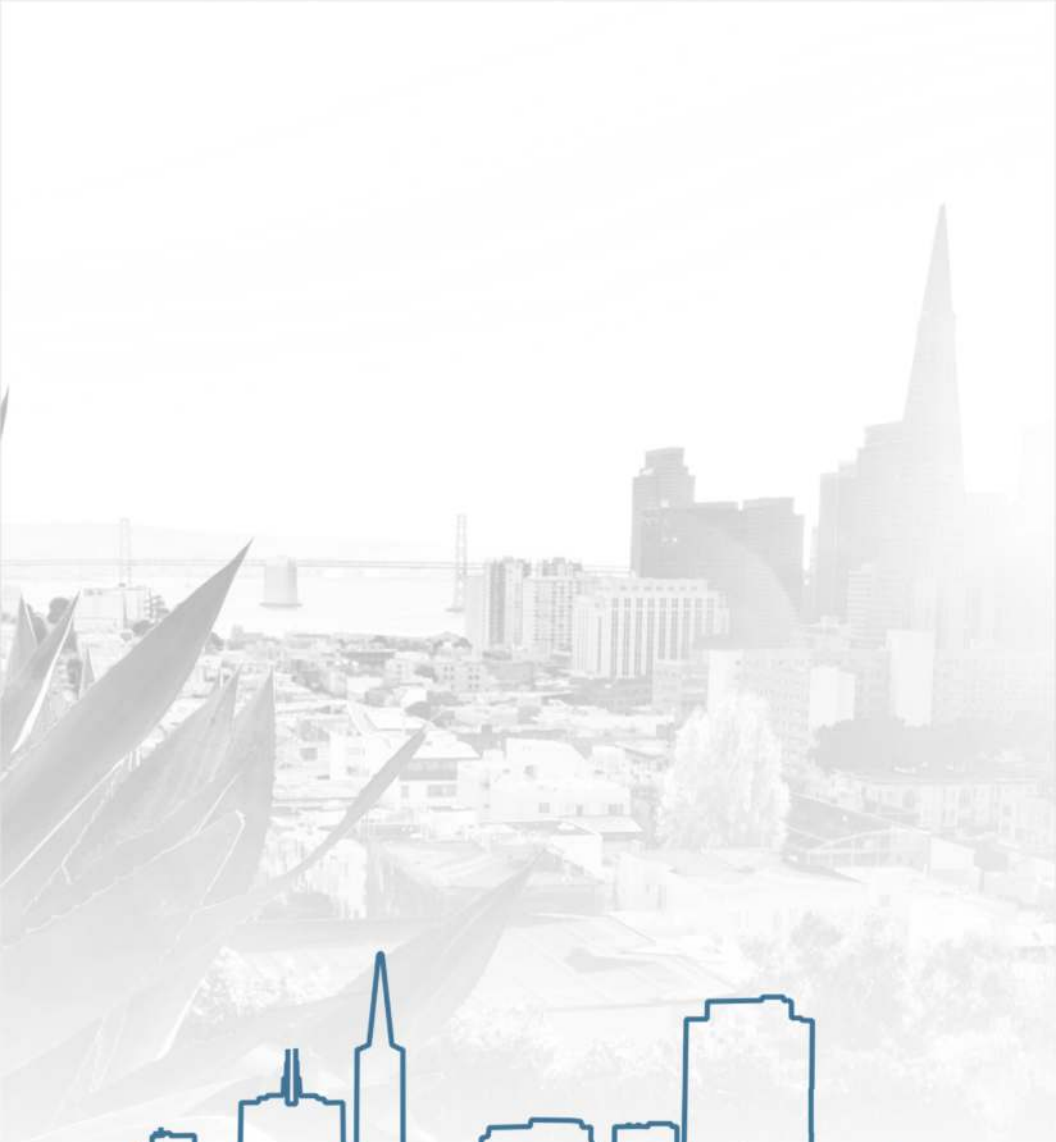
So three days in darkness slept  
The Morning Son of righteousness  
But rose to shame the throes of death  
And overturn His rule  
Now daughters and the sons of men  
Would pay not their dues again  
The debt of blood they owed was rent  
When the day He rolled a new

### **Bridge**

He has cheated hell and seated us above the fall  
In desperate places He paid our wages  
One time once and for all

## **Doxology**

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



**THE PORCH**  
FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

[PORCHSF.COM/WELCOME](http://PORCHSF.COM/WELCOME)