



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

*Easter Sunday*

**April 4, 2021**

### ***Prayer of Meditation before Worship***

*As we prepare our hearts and minds to hear the Good News of Christ's resurrection, keep us mindful of all those ways you have brought new life into the midst of our own suffering and dying, bringing confidence in your saving power both in this world and in the world to come. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.*

### **Welcome**

**Prelude**                    *"The Heavens Are Telling"* (Haydn/arr. Setchel)

### **Introit**

### **Tower Bell**

### **\*Call to Worship**

L: From the death, life.

M: **Great mystery; holy promise!**

L: For whom are you looking?

M: **For Jesus, our Savior, our teacher, our friend.**

L: May this sanctuary become a garden of holy encounter.

M: **Equip us God, with eyes to see the new life you offer.**

L: Let us celebrate together Jesus' Resurrection as we Worship God!

## 288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

C  $\frac{G}{B}$  C  $\frac{F}{A}$  F  $\frac{F}{C}$  C  $\frac{C}{E}$  Dm7 C  $\frac{F}{A}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G7 C

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

$\frac{F}{A}$  C F  $\frac{C}{E}$  Dm7 C  $\frac{C}{G}$  G C  $\frac{C}{E}$  Dm7 C  $\frac{F}{A}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G7 C

All cre - a - tion, join to say Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

G  $\frac{D7}{A}$   $\frac{G}{B}$  G  $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{G7}{D}$  C G  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{D7}{A}$  G  $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{G}{D}$  D7 G

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

G  $\frac{C}{E}$  C  $\frac{F}{A}$  F  $\frac{F}{C}$  C  $\frac{C}{E}$  F  $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{Dm}{F}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G7 C

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*Prayer of Adoration (in unison)**

**We adore and praise you, resurrection God, bringing victory over death, new life in the place of old, hope in the place of despair, glimpses of your peace and justice in our lives in the place of violence and oppression. Give us astonished and grateful hearts as we receive this miracle. We pray in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Confession (done responsively)**

L: For regrets that have hardened into bitterness.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to love.**

L: For righteousness that has distorted into certainty.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to doubt.**

L: When we should have spoken out, but stayed silent.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to speak.**

L: When we've allowed our fear to be our church's compass.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to imagine.**

L: When our indecision has granted legitimacy to injustice.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to act.**

L: When self-concern has precluded concern for others and our world.

M: **Forgive us God. Give us the courage to dare. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

P: Hear the Good News! Those who have the Christ have life. For Jesus has died and now has been raised victorious over sin and death. And in Christ, God has given us this victorious life – Resurrection Life, eternal Life! Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

M: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now & forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*(Creatorex)*

**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**

**Scripture Lesson** From the History of New Testament: Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

## **Anthem**

*“I Am” (Michael Smith/ Arr. Dobin Park)*

I am the great I am. I am the root of David,  
the bright and morning star. I am the lion of Judah.  
I am alpha and omega, the beginning and the end,  
the first and the last. I am the great I am.  
I am faithful and true. I am the word of God.  
I am the lamb, the spotless lamb.  
I am the resurrection, and he that lives.  
I am alive forever Amen! I am king of kings and lord of lords.  
I am holy lord God Almighty which was and is and is to come.  
I am faithful and true. I am the word of God.  
I am the spotless lamb. I am God almighty which  
was and is and is to come. I am that I am.  
I am the great I am!

## **Scripture Lesson**

From the Paul's Letters to the Church: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**15** Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> of the good news<sup>[b]</sup> that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,<sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.<sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters<sup>[c]</sup> at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.<sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Offertory Invitation**

Our generous offerings are but one response to the good news of Easter. They are appropriate expressions of thanks to God. They bear witness to the degree of our commitment. But no offering is a substitute for personal faithfulness to God, who calls us to be healers, witnesses, and lovers of the world's people, whom Christ came to save. Amen.

### **Offertory**

*"He is Risen Now!"*

*(John Purifoy)*

He is risen now! Christ has overcome the grave!  
He has opened heaven's door, he lives forevermore  
Now our souls to save!  
"Alleluia", sing to our heavenly king!  
He is risen, he is risen now

Awake, my heart with gladness, see what today is done.  
Now, after gloom and sadness, bursts forth the glorious sun.  
For Christ again is free from death to victory!  
And to the realms of heavenly light our spirit wings its flight.

This is a sight that gladdens, what peace it does impart!  
Now nothing ever saddens the joy within my heart.  
No gloom shall ever shake, no foe shall ever take  
the hope which God's true only son in love for us has won.

He is risen now! Christ is risen as he said!  
Sing his praises evermore, whom we worship and adore.  
Christ is risen! He is risen now!

## **Scripture Lesson**

From the Gospels: John 20:1-18

## **Sermon**

“Three Gifts of Easter” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

### **Celebrating and Going with God’s Word**

Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper. We believe in an OPEN Table.  
ALL persons who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior  
are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament.

### **\*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Invitation**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

P: The Lord be with you.

M: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

M: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

M: **It is meet and right so to do.**



P: It is meet right and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places, to give thanks to you Almighty God. . . . .

Therefore, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven we join in the song of unending praise, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy God, Ruler Almighty;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O God.  
Blessed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

### **Consecration of the Elements**

### **Acclamation of Faith**

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

### **Partaking of the Lord's Supper**

Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.  
We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity & community as God's people.  
We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness  
as we each stand alone before our God

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)**

**Eternal God, you have called your people From east and west and north and south To eat at the table of Jesus Christ we thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, And to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.**

**Hymn**                              “*Crown Him with Many Crowns*”              (*Diademata*)  
  (*see next page*)

**Benediction**

**Choral Response**                              “*Hallelujah Chorus*”                              (*G. F. Handel*)

**Postlude**    “*Now the Lord is Risen*”              (*Johann Pachelbel*)

**Today’s Worship Leaders:**

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Vickie Grey Kennedy

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Thanks to all the musicians and to Michael Sullivan and Dobin Park for assisting  
with filming and to Dobin Park for film editing.

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ASCENSION

# 317 Crown Him with Many Crowns

D Bm G  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G  $\frac{A7}{E}$  D A

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.  
 2 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

D  $\frac{A}{C\#}$  Bm D E  $\frac{E}{D}$   $\frac{A}{C\#}$   $\frac{E7}{B}$  A D Esus E A

Hark! how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied;  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

$\frac{A}{G}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$  D  $\frac{A7}{E}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G  $\frac{B7}{F\#}$  E  $\frac{D}{F\#}$   $\frac{E}{G\#}$  A

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 his glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,  
 no an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me;

$\frac{A}{G}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em7 A D  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G D Asus A7 D

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.