



EASTER
— SUNDAY —

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

MARCH 31, 2024
10:45 AM

THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION

MARCH 31, 2024
10:45 AM

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“Glory to Our Risen King”
(Grace Chorale)

Eugene Butler

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”
(Trinity Bells)

Robert Williams
arr. Douglas Wagner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand and turn to face the cross as it enters)

*Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made!

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Leader: Open our lips, O Lord.

People: **That we may declare Your praise!**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Hymn 457

**Jesus Christ is ris’n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav’nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!**

**Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

***INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: On the morning of our Lord's Resurrection, the women approached the tomb in fear. When an earthquake rumbled and an angel descended, the guards shook with fear. Coming before a Holy God in worship today, we have every reason to be afraid. Just as our gracious God sent an angel that first Easter morning to say, "Do not be afraid," so the same words are spoken to our hearts this morning. Our gracious God invites us to come into His presence, acknowledge our fears, confess our sins and receive the peace of Christ's Easter victory.

People: **Almighty God, we confess that we have let earthly matters cloud our vision, dim our joy, and close our lips. We have failed to view Your victory and grace through the message of Your Holy Word. Instead, we have relied on our own limited understanding and feared what could happen. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as much as we have loved ourselves. In Your great mercy, forgive us. By Your Holy Spirit, assure us of Your victory over sin, death and the power of the devil on our behalf. Inspire us to share Your resurrection victory and to live our lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Friends in Christ, upon the confession of our sins, God has good news for us. Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death for you and me. He willingly went to the cross to pay the price our sins deserved. In Christ's death and resurrection, God forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Therefore, as a servant of the Word, I forgive you all of your sins, in the Name of the Father and the ☩ Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"This Is the Feast"

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

- 1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: Almighty God, the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting

life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy our Risen Lord and Savior, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Lector: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"
(*Grace Chorale*)

arr. Carlton R. Young

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hymn 475

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” (v. 1)

**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

*Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

*People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION RESPONSE

Hymn 475

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” (v. 4)

**Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

“The Last Easter”

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Pastor: Let us pray for all people in their various needs and for the Church as it witnesses to our Lord’s resurrection.

Pastor: As the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid,” we pray for all who awaken this day with fear of violence, discrimination, or various forms of injustice.

People: **Accompany these people, O Father of the Risen Lord, and graciously give them strength and protection until they find days of peace and security.**

Pastor: As the angel invited the women, “See the place where they laid Him,” we pray for all who work in hospitals, nursing facilities and hospices on this holy day.

People: **O Spirit of the Risen Lord, dry the eyes of those who mourn the death of loved ones, give comforting words to those who minister, perseverance to those who are ill, and protection and skill to health workers in all professions.**

Pastor: As the angel urged the women, “Go tell His disciples,” we pray for all who carry the Good News of Christ’s victory over death to their homes, neighborhoods and to the nations around the world.

People: **O Risen Lord, encourage and bless our brothers and sisters who announce your resurrection in the company of friends and spread its joy personally and through digital connections.**

Pastor: As Job wanted his words written in a book, we pray for all who write laws, all who maintain order in society and everyone in harm’s way at home and abroad.

People: **O Father of the Risen Lord, give wisdom to those who deliberate in houses of government, courage to those who respond to conflict in our communities and protection to men and women in the defense of life around the world.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, Heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

*LORD'S SUPPER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

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

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and singing:

*"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" (*The Sanctus*)

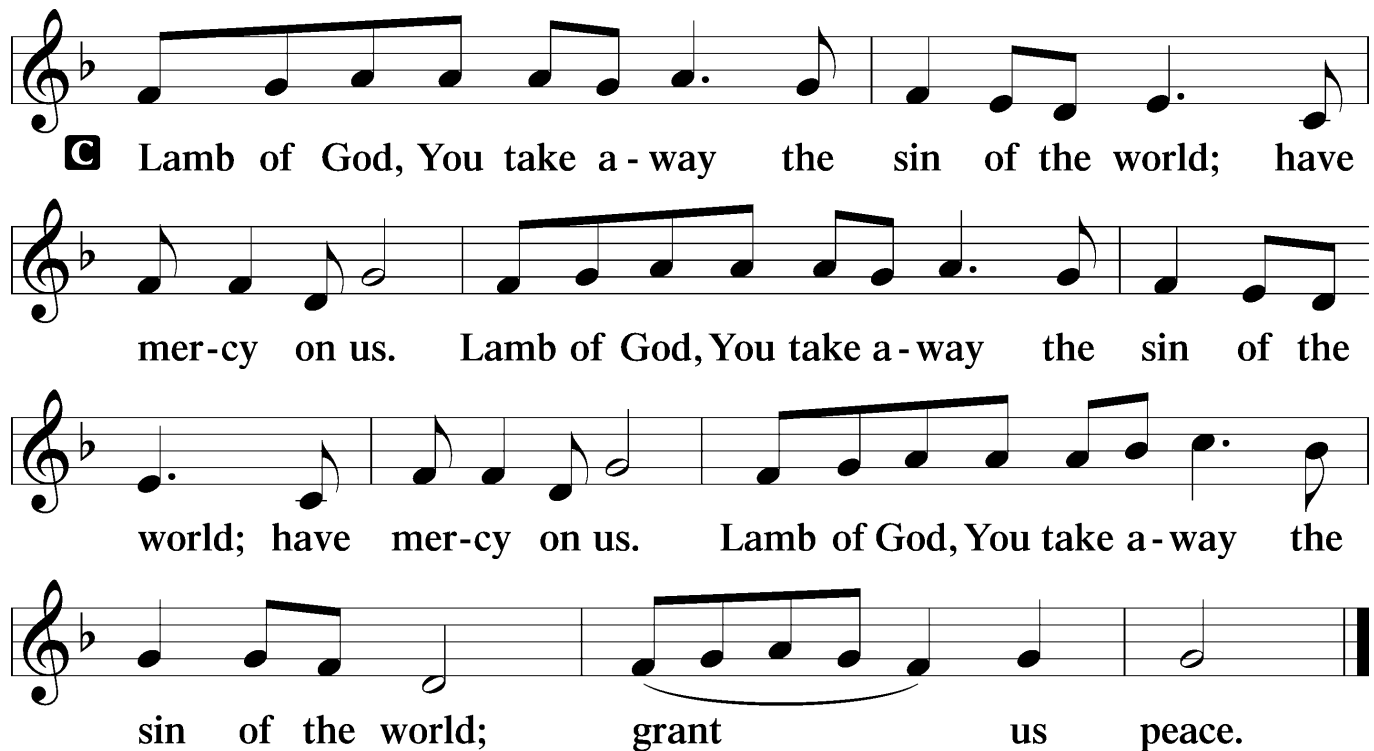
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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.

*"THE LAMB OF GOD" (*The Agnus Dei*)



© Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“This Joyful Eastertide”

Hymn 482

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow: *Refrain*

Refrain
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now has Christ arisen!

Death’s flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: *Refrain*

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number: *Refrain*

“A Joyful Alleluia” (Trinity Bells)

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

Hymn 461

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

*BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Christ the Lord is risen today.

People: **Alleluia.**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Assured of the victory our Risen Lord has won for us, by the power of His resurrection, we receive His benediction.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ grant you peace.

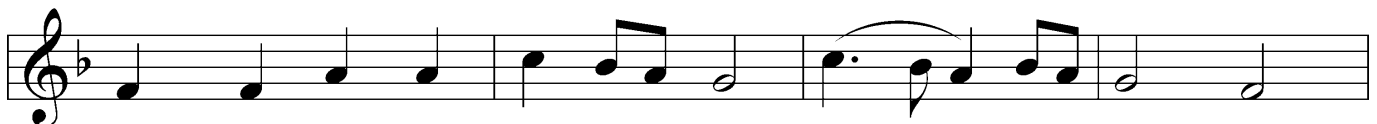
People: **Amen.**

*RECESSIONAL HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia"

Hymn 463



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Pastor: Go in Easter peace and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

THE PARTICIPANTS

10:45 AM

Preacher

Celebrant

Liturgist

Organist

Choir Director/Accompanist

Sound Technician

Elder on Duty

Communion Deacons

Lectors

Greeters

Robing Leader

Crucifer

Candle Bearers

Banner Bearers

Acolytes

Ushers

The Rev. Brendon T. Moore

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Vicar Mark Esser

Sandy Hulse

Valerie Groskopf

Bruce Wales

Janet Hostler

Fred Aceto, Jerry Carter, Dr. Terry Hostler

Larry Walker, Martha Walker

Matthew & Holly Terry

Leslie Ladner

Max Ladner

Lexie Ladner, Bella Wallace

Elliot Jardine, Lilliann Witcher

Lucy Terry, Vera Terry

Nick Nicholson, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker

CREDITS

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