

# Order of Worship

March 31, 2024



## cherry creek pres

A member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church



The Lord's Day • Easter Sunday

### Worship Notes

*...making our worship more meaningful & understandable*

If you are visiting Cherry Creek today, welcome and thank you for worshipping with us on this beautiful Easter morning.

**The Entrance of the Word** comes out of the Scottish Presbyterian tradition. In the days when mass printing was scarce, a large book, such as a Bible, was expensive and valuable. The Scots developed an office known as the "Beadle" who would be in charge of ensuring the book's safety. The procession of the Scriptures became part of the opening ceremonies of worship for the Beadle. The ritual reminds us that the written word reveals to us the Living Word, Jesus Christ—the only mediator between God and humanity (1 Tim 2:5). Apart from Christ, approaching the Father in worship would be in vain.

**The unveiling of the cross.** This unveiling reminds us of several things that happened on that first Easter day. First, the darkness hanging over humanity due to our sin was lifted as Christ's death and resurrection freed us from sin, death, and hell. Second, the mourning of Good Friday turned to joy when His followers realized the "Amazing Grace" of Easter. Third, we see in the symbol of female dancers that the first people to arrive at the tomb were not some or all of Jesus' twelve disciples. Rather, the first to the tomb were the women closest to Jesus.

## God Gathers Us

Prelude - Brass Quartet

Welcome & Prayer

Bagpipe Voluntary & Entrance of the Word

Amazing Grace - NEW BRITAIN

Easter Introit & Unveiling of the Cross

Hymn for Easter Day - John Ness Beck

Why weepst thou? Whom seekest thou?  
He is not here, for He is risen! Alleluia.

## We Celebrate the Easter Story

Processional Hymn no. 288

Christ the Lord is Risen Today - EASTER HYMN

Song of Praise

Living Hope - Bethel

## We Give Ourselves to God

Anthem

Awake, Arise! - Helvey

Worship Through Giving

Easter Acclamation - from 1 Corinthians 15

*Please see screens for responsive reading.*

Christ Our Passover - Dirksen

Greeting

## God Reveals His Word to Us

### Song of Praise

King of Kings - Hillsong

**Sermon** Rev. Dr. Brad Strait

Scripture: John 17:1-5, Luke 23:32-34 (pages 1679, 1642 in pew Bible)

**Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.**  
**All: Thanks Be to God!**

Series: Pray

Message: The Real Lord's Prayer

## We Go Forth in Joy

**Hymn of Response** - *At each refrain, join in ringing your bells!*

#310 Thine is the Glory - Words: Budry; Music: Handel

### Proclamation of Hope

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

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

### Benediction

**Postlude** - Toccata from Symphony V - Charles Marie Widor

### Prayer for Easter

Living God, through Jesus Christ you emptied the power of death and gave us the gift of life in fullness.

Now dry our tears and send us out to tell the good news of the gospel: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. (Presbyterian Mission Prayer)

**"Alleluia"** is not just some random, "Christian-ese," nonsensical word. It's actually the Latin derivation of the Hebrew word we also use: "Hallelujah." In Hebrew, often subjects, verbs, and objects are formed in a compound word like this one. "Hallelu" comes from the verb meaning, "to praise." "Jah" is often how Hebrews would abbreviate the name of God, "Yahweh." (This is why so many biblical figures have names ending in "jah" or "iah," by the way!) The net effect is a command or exclamation which means "Praise the Lord!" Simple, right? Yet how often do we forget the simple things and merely go through the motions? Today, as you hear "alleluias" and as you proclaim and sing them yourself, own up to the word's meaning, and offer to God the best of your praise!

**Assisting in Worship** Patrick Tillery, Steve Dombrowski, Leslie Scarpino, Paul Naslund, brass quartet; Scott Beach, bagpipes; Isabelle Baumann, Anna Cevaal, Alison Kenney, Danielle Kenney, dancers; Sanctuary Choir; Worship Band; David Knopp & Media Team; Usher Team

Rev. Dr. Brad Strait, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Chris Piehl, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Phil Bremerman, Associate Pastor  
Gary Hein, Executive Pastor  
Evan Mazunik, Dir. of Worship & Liturgy  
Bohee Paek, Organist  
Rebecca Sarian, Contemporary Worship Leader