

† HOME SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PRAISE †
The Resurrection of Our Lord
April 4, 2021

HANDBELL PRELUDE

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Katherine Larson

INVOCATION and EASTER ACCLAMATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P This is the day that the Lord has made.

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

C Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

P The Paschal candle represents our risen Lord shining in the light and splendor of His resurrection. He is the new "pillar of fire" leading redeemed Israel out of the bondage of sin into the promised land.

C May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

P Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing, that all who in share this joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

(The Paschal candle is lit)

P The light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

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!

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!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We pray that as He lives, we also may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

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 wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. ⁸Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

P Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

C Death has no more dominion over us.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

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 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, 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!

SERMON

"Hope Mixed With Fear"

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

THE NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God, who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

P Almighty God, we praise Your power revealed in the resurrection. Fill Your church with the power of Your love that is stronger than death. Use us to share the good news with those who are fearful and uncertain. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We praise Your life-giving work in the resurrection. Give us eyes to see Your new life in creation, that it may remind us of Your persistent grace, and teach us to care for what You have made. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We praise You for the peace made possible in the resurrection. Fill the nations with Your peace and draw together people of every community. Guide all leaders in Your ways, and help us to seek the good of our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We praise You for the hope of the resurrection. Renew hope in any who are troubled, and assure them of Your promises. We pray for those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve, especially all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now... (PAUSE). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We praise You for the joy of the resurrection. Fill us with joy as we come together for worship and go out to serve in Your name. We give You thanks for sustaining us through the traumas of this past year and for the blessings that You continually bestow upon us. Bless our homes and families with Your presence. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to You, trusting in Your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

CLOSING HYMN

Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

CLOSING PRAYER

P God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and has become the Lord of life. Keep us mindful of the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as Your people toward the fullness of eternal life with You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

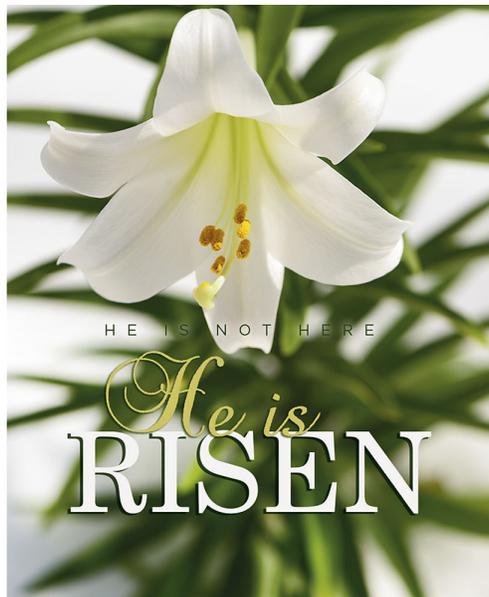
Fanfare on "At the Lamb's High Feast"

John Behnke

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Special thanks to our additional participant in the service:

Lector James Maxeiner



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