

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

DR. W. FRANKLYN RICHARDSON, SENIOR PASTOR



“Empowered by the Cross”

April 5, 2026



WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR

My Beloved Grace Family,

On this Resurrection Sunday, we proclaim with confidence and clarity: *God is still on the throne.*

Easter is more than the celebration of an empty tomb—it is the affirmation that God’s power, God’s purpose, and God’s presence still prevail. No turmoil in our world can overturn His authority. No darkness can diminish His light. The resurrection of Jesus Christ stands as the eternal reminder that hope is alive and victory is assured.

This year, we are anchored in the words of Jesus from Mark 10:45: “For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Here, at the heart of the gospel, we find both the mission of Christ and the calling of His Church.

Jesus did not come claiming power—He came giving Himself away. He came as a servant. And through the cross, that servant ministry was not defeated—it was empowered.

The cross is not merely a symbol of suffering; it is the source of our strength. It is where love was poured out, where sacrifice met redemption, and where service became sacred. Because of the cross—and the resurrection that followed—we are called to be a servant people, carrying forward a servant ministry, empowered by the cross.

In a world that seeks control, Christ calls us to compassion.
In a world filled with division, Christ calls us to service.
In a world searching for hope, Christ calls us to embody it.

Even now—amid global conflict, community pain, and personal trials—we are not without direction, and we are not without power. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in us, equipping us to serve, to love, and to stand as witnesses of His grace.

So on this Easter morning, we rejoice—not only because He lives, but because His life lives in us.

Let us rise in faith.

Let us walk in love.

And let us serve with boldness—knowing that we are a servant ministry, empowered by the cross and sustained by the risen Christ.

Take heart, dear family. The stone has been rolled away. The grave has been conquered. And our God still reigns.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

With love and hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richardson", written in a cursive style.

Pastor Richardson

*“For even the Son of Man
came not to be served but
to serve, and to give his life
as a ransom for many.”*

~Mark 10:45 (ESV)



ORDER OF SERVICE

8:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship Leaders: 8:00 a.m. - Rev. Kendall Murray McFarlane | 11:00 a.m. - Rev. Barbara Felker

OPENING GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP: Rejoice! And again I say rejoice, for He is Risen! For Christ Jesus has broken the curse of death and destroyed the power it once had over us. Give Glory to God who humbled himself, even to death on the cross. Give glory to the exalted Christ. He is worthy, the Risen Christ, the Resurrected One, Praise him, Praise his Holy Name. Let everything that has breath, Praise the Lord!

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

OFFERTORY

“All Things Come of Thee,
O Lord, and of Thine own
have we given Thee.” Amen.

INVOCATION

8:00 a.m. - Deacon Joyce Kelly
11:00 a.m. - Deacon Rhonda Jones

SACRED MUSIC

RESURRECTION SUNDAY LITANY

Rev. William M. Mizell

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Amazing Grace”

INSPIRATIONAL HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERMON

Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson
Senior Pastor

WORDS OF WELCOME

8:00 a.m. - Joan Lloyd
11:00 a.m. - Barbara Adamson Watler

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

SACRED MUSIC

LET'S STAY CONNECTED

(Video)

COMMUNION

11:00 a.m. Service

TITHE/OFFERING AFFIRMATION

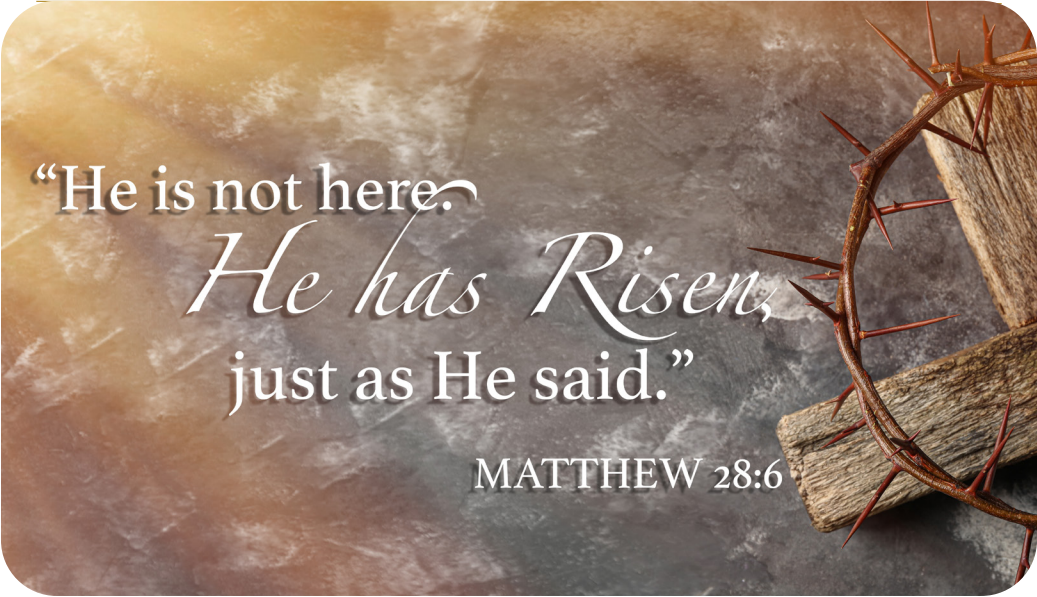
BENEDICTION

Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES & OFFERINGS

POSTLUDE

RESURRECTION SUNDAY LITNAY



“He is not here.
He has Risen,
just as He said.”

MATTHEW 28:6

LEADER: Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Christ our light, you have conquered the darkness, shine in our lives and in the world. Christ our hope, you have broken the chains of death, fill us with the joy of your victory.

PEOPLE: For the church, called to bear witness to the resurrection, empower us to proclaim your life in word and deed. For those who are afraid, anxious, or alone, grant your peace and courage to hope.

LEADER: For the sick, the suffering, and those who care for them, bring healing, strength, and compassion. For the grieving and all who mourn, People: Comfort them with the promise of new life.

PEOPLE: For families, neighbors, and communities, knit us together in love and mutual support. For leaders in every place, that they may seek justice and mercy, guide them with wisdom and humility.

LEADER: For the poor, the oppressed, and the voiceless, raise up advocates and bring relief and dignity. For those far from faith or faith shaken, draw them by your grace into your saving love.

PEOPLE: For the saints who have gone before us and now rest in you, we give you thanks and celebrate your triumph.

ALL: Eternal God, you have given us new life in Christ. Hear the prayers we offer this day. Strengthen us to live as people of resurrection, to love boldly, to serve humbly, and to walk in the hope of your coming kingdom.

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

VERSE 1:

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

VERSE 2:

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, He all doth save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

VERSE 3:

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

VERSE 4:

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!

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

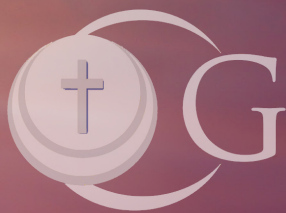
Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

CHORUS:

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me





*A Servant Ministry
Empowered by the Cross*