

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // abseconumc.com

abseconumc@comcast.net

The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com

**Priscilla Cunningham,
Director of Music and Organist**



The Words After the Final Words

April 7, 2024

Today's Lay Reader: David Wade

Welcome

Prelude

Easter Chimes

Lani Smith

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at 11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: **We come, ready to continue the resurrection story!**

Leader: Jesus' story isn't finished, and neither is ours!

People: **Lord, help us to be Easter people all year long!**

Hymn

The Day of Resurrection

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth the song be - gin!

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is there - in!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness blend,

our Christ hath brought us o - ver, with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Opening Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the resurrection. We thank you for the gifts of grace that you have given us so freely. We also thank you for the season of Lent, which taught us the great cost of that grace. May we never take it for granted. And may we all make disciples of Jesus Christ through grace! Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Up from the Grave He Arose

1. Low in the grave he lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior,
2. Vain - ly they watch his bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior;
3. Death can - not keep its prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior;

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass clef in 4/4 time. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with a steady accompaniment in the bass line.

wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my Lord!
vain - ly they seal the dead, Je - sus my Lord!
he tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my Lord!

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in the final measure of the treble staff.

Refrain

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his
(he a-rose)

The refrain system features a more rhythmic melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, and a bass line with a similar rhythmic pattern.

foes; he a-rose a vic-tor from the dark domain, and he
(o'er his foes)

lives for - ev - er, with his saints to reign. He arose! He a-
(he arose)

rose! (he a-rose) Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

The image shows three systems of musical notation for a choir. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics. The second system covers the next two lines. The third system covers the final line of lyrics. The music is in a common time signature and features a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

Senior Choir

Every Morning Is Easter Morning

Avery / Marsh

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

Luke 24:33-49

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said

this, he showed them his hands and his feet. Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

Message *The Words After the Final Words*

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Because He Lives

William Gaither

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A Service of Word and Table

Please see the Communion Liturgy on [page 8](#) of this document.

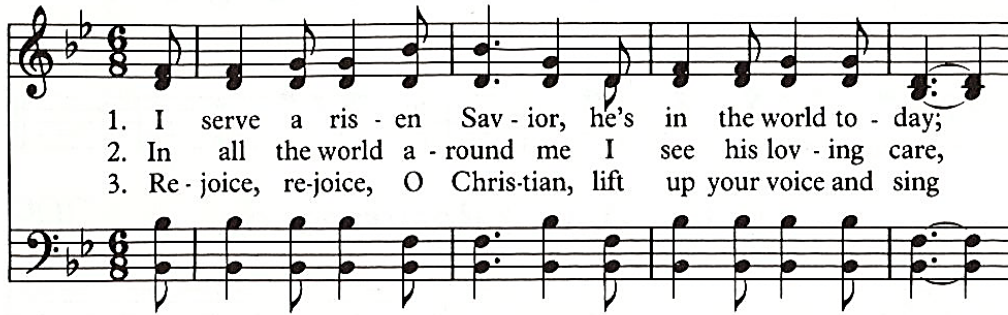
Communion Anthem

A Choral Benediction

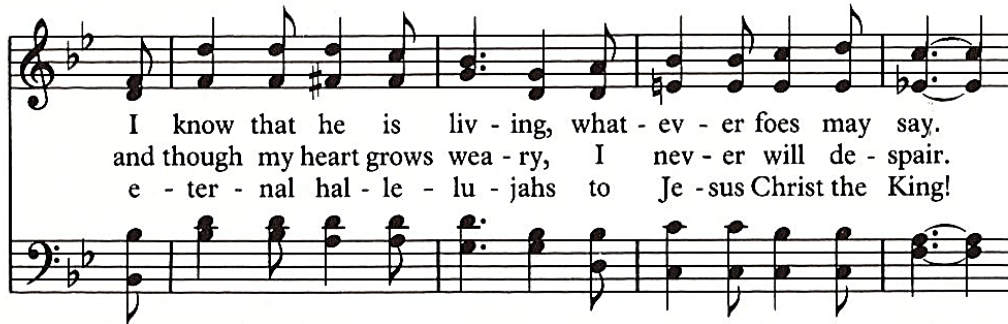
Don Besig

Hymn

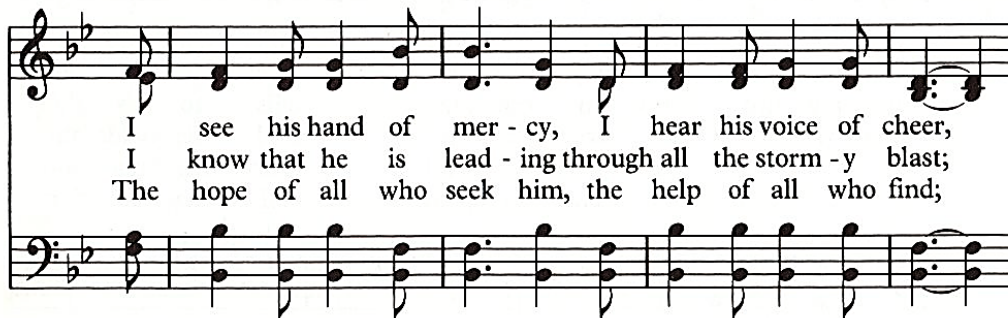
He Lives



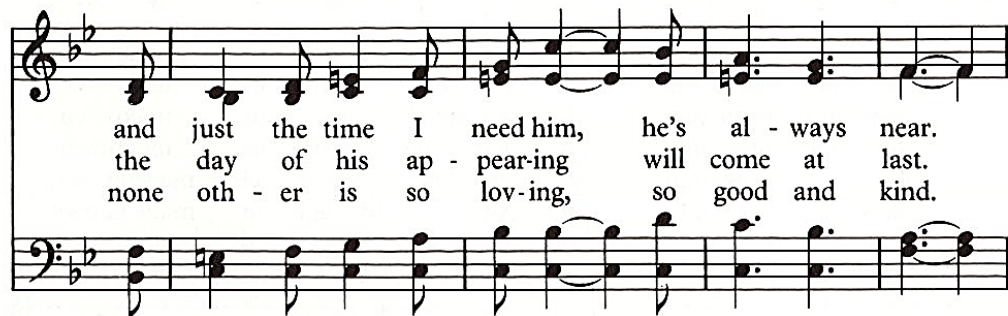
1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2. In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3. Re - joice, re-joyce, O Chris-tian, lift up your voice and sing



I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er foes may say.
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair.
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

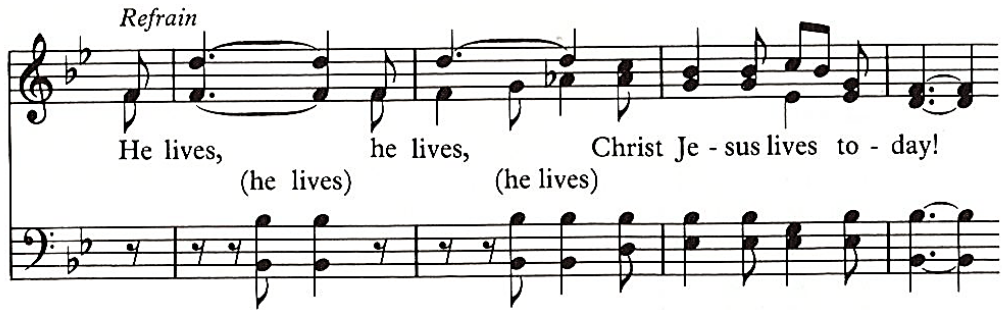


I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast;
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;



and just the time I need him, he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear-ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov-ing, so good and kind.

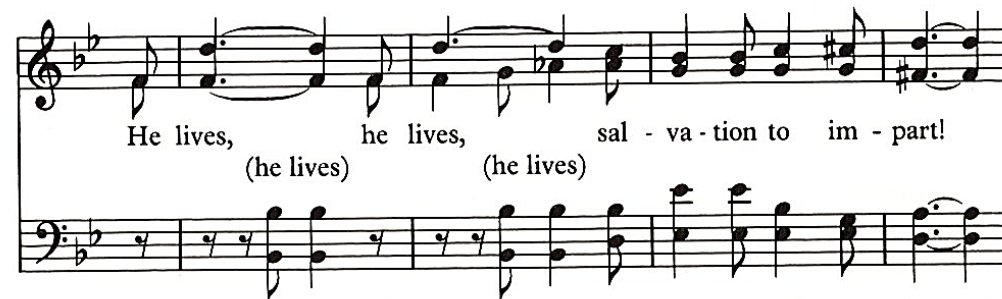
Refrain



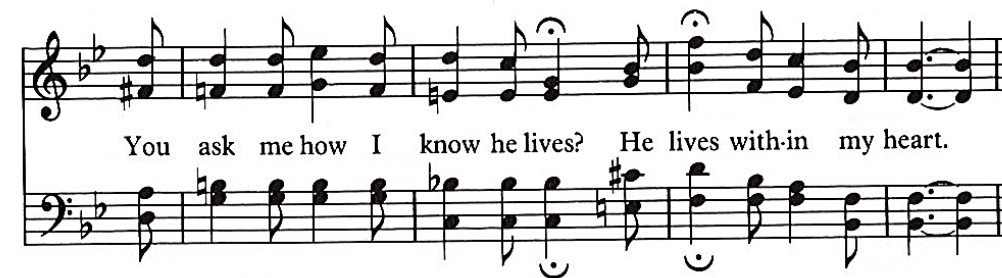
He lives, (he lives) he lives, (he lives) Christ Je - sus lives to - day!



He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.



He lives, (he lives) he lives, (he lives) sal - va - tion to im - part!



You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with-in my heart.

Benediction

Postlude

Voluntary

Douglas Guest

A Service of Word and Table

Invitation

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are all forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! All: Thanks be to God!

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's mighty acts of salvation, and concludes: And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The people sing their response:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of
power and might. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - - - -
- ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high -
est! Blest is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal* (Isa. 6:3; Matt. 21:9)

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

Music © 1999 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co. Used by permission.

Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-b.

The pastor continues the Thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes: And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and

living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The people sing their response:

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en,
Christ will come a - gain. Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal*
MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

Music © 1999 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co. Used by permission.
Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-c.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding: All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen!

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Cup