

March 31, 2024
Easter Festival Service

O Praise The Name (Anastasis)

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing Son shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death, where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

Welcome and Invocation

People of God, Jesus' burial in the tomb on Friday was not the end of His story. For our God is not the God of the dead but of the living. On Easter we celebrate that the tomb is empty for Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Christ is risen!
He is risen, indeed!

Choir

“Glad Easter Praises”

Confession and Forgiveness

Jesus' death and resurrection begin their work in us when we acknowledge Him as our Savior from sin. Because He was willing to be buried in a dark tomb we can invite Him into the dark and sinful parts of our lives as we confess our sins.

(We pause for private confession.)

Just as surely as Jesus entered the tomb on Friday so He enters the sinful parts of our lives. Because He rose from the dead on Easter, we trust that He has the power to forgive our sins and transform our lives.

Lord Jesus forgive us. Help us to leave behind the darkness of sin. By the power of Your resurrection, transform our lives. Amen.

Jesus carried our sins on the cross and in His death He paid the full penalty for them. His empty tomb on Easter morning means He won the victory. Death is defeated. Our sins are forgiven. In Jesus' name, and by His command it is my joyful duty to announce the full forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen! We are forgiven! Alleluia!

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Old Testament

Psalms 16:9-10

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

1 Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.

2 Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.

3 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Glory be to God on high:
 Alleluia to the Savior
 Who has gained the victory;
 Alleluia to the Spirit,
 Fount of love and sanctity!
 Alleluia, alleluia
 To the triune Majesty!

Gospel

Matthew 27:62-28:8

The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

"Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then 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."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Object Lesson

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us
 How high the mountain I could not climb
 In desperation, I turned to heaven
 And spoke your name into the night

Then through the darkness
 Your loving kindness
 Tore through the shadows of my soul
 The work is finished, the end is written
 Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
 What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
 The God of ages stepped down from glory
 To wear my sin and bear my shame

The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
 The King of Kings calls me His own
 Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever
 Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free!
 Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
 You have broken every chain,
 There's salvation in Your name.
 Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free!
 Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
 You have broken every chain,
 There's salvation in your name.
 Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.
 Your buried body began to breathe.
 Out of the silence, the roaring lion
 Declared the grave has no claim on me.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus, yours is the victory.

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain,
There's salvation in your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain,
There's salvation in your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Jesus Christ, my living hope!
Oh God, you are my living hope!

Words and Music by Brian Johnson & Phil Wickham
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Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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 & the 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.

Jesus' Directions for Holy Communion

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Distribution of Communion

[If your body does not tolerate alcohol, the back row of the individual cups are grape juice.]

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

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|---|---|
| 1 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. | 6 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. |
| 2 He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save; He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high. | 7 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. |
| 3 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. | 8 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! |

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

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| 1 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! | 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia! When contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia! |
| 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia! | 4 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! |

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Closing Prayer

We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through these good gifts and we ask that you would strengthen us through them, both in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

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.

Amen.

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

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| 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds In praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above That we conquer through Your triumph; Grant grace sufficient for life's day That by our lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| 2 Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | 4 Adoring praises now we bring And with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father and our Lord, To Spirit blest, most holy God, All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |

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Server Schedule

| | 3/31 Easter | 4/7 | 4/14 |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| | 7:00 AM | 8:30 | 8:30 |
| Elder | Gordon | Mike | Greg |
| Reader | Amy | Karen | Wanda |
| PowerPoint | Wanda | Dan | Gordon |
| Organ | Linda | Linda | Linda |
| Audio | Steve | Steve | Steve |
| Visuals | Edwin | Greg | Amy |
| | 10:00 AM | 10:30 | 10:30 |
| Elder | Herold | Bill | Dan |
| Reader | Delka | Cole | Rosemary |
| PowerPoint | Cole | Vicki | Vicki |
| Audio/Visuals | Mike/Emily | Hayden/Donovan | Mike/Emily |
| Counters | Adria/Michelle | John Di/Wayne | Mick/James |

The altar flowers are donated by the Flower Ministry and the Moons, in celebration of the resurrection of our savior and Jerry and Bernice's wedding anniversary.

Birthdays this Week

03/31 Lauren Dontsow

04/03 Cole Babiuch

Anniversaries this Week

None on record