



*He is*  
**RISEN!**

# EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

*“As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side and they were alarmed. But 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.’”*

*Mark 16:5-6a*

March 31, 2024

7:00 am

GREETING

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

This is the day the LORD has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE PASCHAL CANDLE IS LIT

EASTER PRAYER

**God of hope, in the midst of death, you call forth life.**

**When all hope seemed gone, you raised Jesus from the grave.**

**We come before you today, longing for your life-giving presence.**

**God of new life, raise us up with all your people.**

**Lift us from the tombs of our despair and doubt, that we may rejoice  
in your power over death.**

**God of joy, fill our hearts with alleluias as we sing our praise.**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

PRAISE HYMN (UMH 302, v. 1, 3) “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

**Christ the LORD is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where’s thy victory boasting grave? Alleluia!**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 10:34-43

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 16:1-8

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Now the Green Blade Riseth”  
Sharon Keeler, vocalist

J. M. C. Crum

MESSAGE

“Roll Away the Stone”

Rev. Mary Browne

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD 100TH

OFFERING PRAYER

**God of the victory of life over death; on this glorious Easter Sunday, we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ.**

**Just as the women encountered the empty tomb and the angelic message of new life, we too encounter the living Christ in our hearts and lives.**

**As we come to present our tithes and offerings, may they be an affirmation of our search for the risen Christ, the one who challenges us to see beyond our own expectations.**

**Bless our giving and help us discover the transformative power of the living Jesus in our lives.**

**In the holy name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All-knowing, all-powerful God, we confess that, even on this most holy day, we sometimes struggle to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love.**

**Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your stunning presence throughout the ages, we would be lost.**

**Forgive and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation.

You shall not die but live.

The rejected cornerstone has become your strength and your song.

Beloved, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia!**

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

...and forgive us our trespasses...

BREAKING THE BREAD

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy,  
such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Let our lives be proof of that good news.  
Let all our words and actions, our love and service bear witness  
to your resurrection power;  
for the sake of our living LORD, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN (*UMH* 303, v. 1, 3) "The Day of Resurrection"

LANCASHIRE

**The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad;  
the passover of gladness, the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.**

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go from here renewed and strong, knowing that the Lord is alive, almighty and present.  
Look for the blessings that await you this week.

Tell the story of hope.

Easter people of Jesus Christ, this very day, God has acted.

**Jesus is raised from the dead.**

**Let us rejoice and be glad.**

May the love of God,  
the peace of Jesus Christ,  
and the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit  
be within you and among you until we meet again.

**Amen.**

All are invited to the Christian Life Center to share fellowship  
and enjoy a light breakfast.

*All our Members, Ministers*

Rev. Mary H. Browne, Senior Pastor

Calvin Keeler, Sr, Reader

Mrs. Sharon Keeler, vocalist & song leader

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