



Easter Festival 2020

"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." - 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

OUR SAVIOR **EASTER FESTIVAL SERVICE** APRIL 12, 2020

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WORSHIP NOTES

For God's people an Easter service needs no introduction. We gather today to hear the incomparable news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. His resurrection assures us of our resurrection and inspires us to live now, every day, for him. **Alleluia** returns to our worship today after a six-week absence during Lent and Holy Week.

THE INVOCATION

P: We celebrate this festival day in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: With joy we respond, "He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

P: Upon the hill the cross stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb. Christ is risen, Alleluia!

C: Within us, new life is awakened. God has given new hope to a dying world. Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! Amen!

THE OPENING HYMN "Alleluia, Give Thanks"

CW, # 154

Jesus is Lord of all the earth; He is the King of creation.

Refrain:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to His Name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. *[Refrain]*

We have been crucified with Christ; Now eternal for all who believe. *[Refrain]*

God has proclaimed his gracious gift, Life for all men, Alleluia. *[Refrain]*

Come let us praise the living God; Joyfully sing to our Savior. *[Refrain]*

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: These words were spoken to the participants of Holy Week, those who cried out, "Crucify him!" On the day of Pentecost, Peter summed up our Easter confidence by proclaiming:

C: "Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him."

P: David said about him: "I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

C: **Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope,**

P: because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

C: **You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence."**

P: Peter said on Pentecost: "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this:

C: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."**

HYMN "This Joyful Eastertide"

CW, # 160

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!

My Love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow:

Refrain:

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain; but now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen; but now has Christ arisen!

Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver: *[Refrain]*

My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number: *[Refrain]*

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

- C: Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence, to hear your word, and to worship you by celebrating the resurrection of your Son.**
- P:** But who may appear in your presence heavenly Father, and who may call on you for help?
- C: The one who has clean hands and a pure heart shall receive blessings from the Lord.**
- P:** O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and are worthy to receive only your punishment and condemnation. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. At your command and promise, therefore, we come to you and confess our sins.
- C: O holy and merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious word I come to you, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ I plead: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner!**

THE PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

- P:** Having heard your confession, I as a called minister of God's Word assure you that our gracious Father in heaven has heard your prayer, and by the command of the Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you.
- C: Amen. (sung)**

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY

- P:** The Lord be with you.
- C: (sung) And also with you.**
- P:** Let us pray.
- C: Lord Jesus, when you rose victorious from death, you gave us a day of great rejoicing. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone of our faith. Let cries of joy and exultation ring out to celebrate the good news of your resurrection, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
- C: (sung) Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 28:1-20

Visual Bible

Matthew recounts the resurrection appearance of the Savior to the women who had gone out to the tomb early Easter morning.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

THE HYMN "His Battle Ended There"

CW, #146

His battle ended there, death was overcome.
Jesus, alive again, wore the victor's crown.
Clearly sin had failed; Goodness had prevailed.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dread pow'rs of death and sin had him in their hold.
When Jesus rose again all their plans were foiled.
Jesus lived again, Triumphed over sin.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dead in the grave he lay, mourned by ev'ry friend.
Those dark and fearful days then did reach their end.
God raised him to life, Victor in the strife.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He burst the chains of sin, opened death's dark jail.
God filled him with new life, life that could not fail.
Right before their eyes Jesus did arise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE SERMON Revelation 19:11-16 "Our War is Finally Won"

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

THE OFFERING

Received by mail, delivery, or online deposits. Please see the CoVid-19 letter (email / website) or call the church office at 262-377-6363 for information about how you can continue to support God's work through our ministry at Our Savior.

SPECIAL PRAYERS

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

THE BENEDICTION

THE HYMN AND SILENT PRAYER "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

CW, #152:1, 6-8

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, 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.

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.

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!"

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS - You are today a guest of God. He is your heavenly Father. Come, then as you worship, into his presence - offering him your love and service. Come, expecting to share in the greatest things that life can offer. Come, to hear of full and free forgiveness. And come to know that you are "more than conquerors" over sin, death and the devil. For God promised to the first sinners that they would be forgiven through One of their own, an offspring...whom we have met again today. His name, the most important name of all, is Jesus, God's Son, our Savior.

THANK YOU, to all who helped to beautify our service with music, decorations and a genuine love for Christ. We are so blessed to know him and to have our forever future secure.

EASTER PLANTS - Once again this year, we wish to thank Ron Reel and his family for helping to beautify our house of worship by decorating for Easter.

