



Christ
IS
Risen
INDEED
Alleluia!

EASTER 2021

EASTER SUNDAY

April 4, 2021

GATHERING

PRAYER OF PREPARATION: *Almighty God: through the raising of Jesus Christ from the dead you have given us a living hope. Keep us joyful in our trials, and guard our faith, so we may receive the wonderful inheritance of life eternal, which you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!
Joey Moore, trumpet

arr. by Blair

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. John White

One: This is the day:

ALL: *when tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended; fears are replaced with joy.*

One: This is the day the Lord:

ALL: *rolls away the stone of fear; throws off death's clothes; goes ahead of us into God's future.*

One: This is the day the Lord has made:

ALL: *death holds no fear for us; God opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.*

One: This is the day – Easter Day!

ALL: *Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!*

MUSIC

Thine is the Glory
Joey Moore, trumpet

arr. by Althouse

TO PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. John White

One: Gracious God, the good news of the empty tomb heralds your victory over sin and death.

ALL: *Jesus has risen, but often His new life is difficult to detect in our lives.*

One: Forgive us when we live in hopelessness, ignoring the triumph of Christ over death.

ALL: *Forgive us when we dwell in anger and sadness, ignoring the joy of the empty tomb.*

One: Forgive us when we disparage our neighbors, ignoring the love which Christ said would mark His followers.

ALL: *As we come to the empty tomb seeking forgiveness, remind us of your unending mercy, and enable us to share that mercy with your world. Grant that we might declare the good news that the tomb is now empty and Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed! Amen!*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev John White

One: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death!" (Romans 8:1-2)

ALL: *Hear the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!*

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Rev. Courtney Bowen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: God who brings life out of death,

ALL: *Hear our prayer.*

MUSIC

Hymn of Promise
Jeff Chambers, guitar

Sleeth

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 46

Rev. Courtney Bowen

NEW TESTAMENT

Mark 16:1-8

Rev. John White

SERMON

"The Paralysis of the People"

Rev. John White

"So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." Mark 16:8

RESPONSE

MUSIC

All Creatures of Our God and King
Joey Moore, trumpet

arr. by Althouse

**Congregation standing, if able*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from "A Declaration of Faith"

Rev. Courtney Bowen

Jesus is our living Lord. Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised Him from the dead. The risen Lord appeared to His followers. They recognized Him as their Master who had been crucified. We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to Himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life;
Jesus is Lord!
*He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now He is Lord.*

OFFERING

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. Courtney Bowen

SENDING

***CHARGE**

Rev. John White

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

***POSTLUDE**

Hallelujah Chorus
Joey Moore, trumpet

Handel

