APRIL 20, 2025 ~ 10:00 A.M. SERVICE *Indicates we will rise in body or spirit

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Diane Ritzema

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

ALL: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

ALL: He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! ALL: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

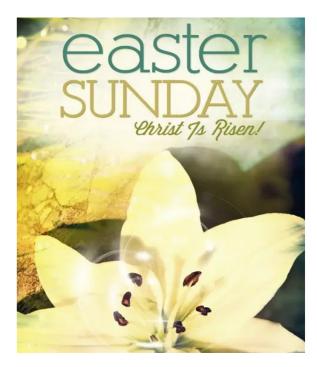
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*Songs of Praise: Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth, reply: Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia! Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!



Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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Come, People of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King, who delight to bring Him praise; Come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to Him, Where steady arms of mercy reach, to gather children in.

> Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ rejoice.

Come those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night, Come those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease But follow us through all our days, with the certain hope of peace.

> Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ rejoice.

Come young and old from every land, men and women of the faith; Come those with full or empty hands—find the riches of His grace. Over all the world, His people sing—shore to shore we hear them call The truth that cries in ev'ry age, "Our God is all in all!"

> Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ rejoice.

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God's Greeting/Mutual Greetings

WE ARE RENEWED

Call to Confession:

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians, "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human, for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ." (—1 Corinthians 15:20–23)

With gratitude for the gift of salvation let us humbly go before God and confess the sin that necessitated Christ's self-sacrifice. Let us pray, beginning with a time of silent reflection.

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Prayer of Confession:

Holy and Almighty God, out of the silence we come to you. We come with gratitude in our hearts for the gift of your son, Jesus Christ, who died so we may live. We come fully recognizing our unworthiness. That even today, as we celebrate the gift of the resurrection, we have sinned, and we will sin. We come to you realizing just how often we fail to put you first, even though we proclaim you Lord of all; realizing how we can sing your praises in one breath and use your name to curse in the next; realizing that though we claim the title, Christian, we fail to be a Christ follower, we fail to be your disciple, we fail to follow your example, a humble servant, willing to extend love to all people, regardless of any societal labels. We come to you, aware of our shortcomings, asking for your Holy Spirit to work in us, convict us of our sin, so that we may become more like you. Amen.

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Song of Faith:

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

I know that my Redeemer lives! What joy this blest assurance gives! He lives, he lives who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head! He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save; He lives exalted, throned above; He lives to rule his church in love.

He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; What joy this blessed assurance gives; I know that my Redeemer lives!

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Dedication to Holy Living: Colossians 3:1-4

GOD SPEAKS

[Children ages 3-3rd grade may exit the sanctuary for Children's Church]

*Song of Preparation: Low, in the Grave He Lay

Low in the grave He lay—Jesus, my Savior; Waiting the coming day—Jesus, my Lord.

Up from the grave he arose, with a might triumph o'er his foes. He arose a victor from the dark domain, And he lives forever with his saints to reign! He arose! He arose! Halleluiah! Christ arose!

> Death cannot keep its prey—Jesus, my Savior; He tore the bars away—Jesus, my Lord.

Up from the grave he arose, with a might triumph o'er his foes. He arose a victor from the dark domain, And he lives forever with his saints to reign! He arose! He arose! Halleluiah! Christ arose!

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Scripture: John 20:1-18

Message: The Servant's Message

WE RESPOND

*Songs of Response: See What a Morning

See what a morning, gloriously bright, With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem; Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light, As the angels announce "Christ is risen!" See God's salvation plan, Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice, Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?" As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb. Hears a voice speaking, calling her name; It's the Master, the Lord, raised to life again! The voice that spans the years, Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us, Will sound till He appears, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

One with the Father, Ancient of Days, Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty. Honor and blessing, glory and praise To the King crowned with power and authority. And we are raised with Him; Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered. And we shall reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

And we are raised with Him; Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered. And we shall reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead.

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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.

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. Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied; For ev'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

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.

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

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand. Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand. Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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Prayer for our Church:

ALL:

Hallelujah! On this Easter morning we come to the empty tomb, where we hear the wonderful news that You are risen from the dead. We sing, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today. Hallelujah!" We hear the command to go and tell others the good news of Your resurrection. May we be Your messengers of this good news today and every day. We pray in the name of our resurrected Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Ed Ritzema

Offering: ReFrame Ministries

God Blesses Us to Serve

*Benediction

*Doxology:

I Serve a Risen Savior

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever people say; I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, And every time I need him he's always near.

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; No other is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lies today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

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Postlude

