

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026
10:00 a.m. service



***Indicates we will rise in body or spirit**

Prelude

Diane Ritzema

Welcome

Call to Worship:

This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

ALL: Hallelujah!

This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

ALL: Hallelujah!

This is the good news—once we were no people; now we are God's people.

ALL: Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

ALL: Hallelujah!

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***Song 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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Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

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

Song of Assurance: His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?

What Father, so tender, is calling us home?

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.

His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Words and music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell
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God's Will for Our Lives: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 NLT

Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.

So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Prayer for our Church:

ALL:

Jesus, our Risen Savior, We worship You! May we live in the joy of Your resurrection. Give us eyes to see You working through us. Overwhelm us with Your wisdom and grace. May we always give You all glory, honor and praise! Amen

Prayers of the People: Diane Ritzema

Song of Preparation: Low in the Grave Christ 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: Matthew 28:1-10

Message

[Parents-please pick up your children from Children's Church during the song]

***Song 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.

Words and music by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend
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Lord's Supper

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will sit at table in the kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

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With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you have created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his glorious resurrection overcame the power of sin and gave us new life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

ALL SING:

**Oh how good is Christ the Lord!
On the cross he died for me.
He has pardoned all my sin.
Glory be to Jesus.
Glory be to Jesus.
Glory be to Jesus.
In three days he rose again.
Glory be to Jesus.**

By your power you raised Jesus from death to life. Through his victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God. In his rising to life you promise eternal life to all who believe in him. We praise you that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us.

ALL:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with the risen Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

ALL:

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

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Apostles Creed

As we draw near to the table of our Lord, let us stand and confess our Christian faith:

ALL:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to 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 catholic church
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*(Please walk forward in body or spirit to receive the Lord's Supper.
Take the bread and cup and bring them back to your seat
and we will partake together.
If you are unable to come forward,
a server will come to you with bread and cup.)*

Song during Distribution: 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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~Sharing the Bread~

The body of Christ, given for you. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

~Sharing the Cup~

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Offering: ReFrame Ministries

Songs of Praise: He is Risen

Early morning, break of dawn,
Stumbling to the tomb;
Standing awestruck, wond'ring who
Rolled away the stone;
And as the sun came up,
Amazed they looked inside and saw
An angel clothed in light;
Don't be afraid, He is alive.

He is risen; Hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is risen; Let the whole world sing
Christ is risen;
Christ is risen from the dead.

Sing with all creation, sing
Of a world made new;
Endless life we too may live,
Bursting from the tomb;
And looking up
We see our King enthroned on high;
His wounds of love now glorified;
Rejoice, for soon He'll burst the sky.

He is risen; Hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is risen; Let the whole world sing
Christ is risen;
Christ is risen from the dead.

He is risen; Hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is risen; Let the whole world sing
Christ is risen; Christ is risen;
Christ is risen from the dead.

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***Blessing**

***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 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.

Words and music by Alfred Henry Ackley

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Music: 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver. Renewed 1961 Word Music, LLC (Admin. by WB Music Corp.)

Postlude

