



APRIL 4, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY

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GATHERING AND PRAISE

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CALL TO WORSHIP *"Easter People, Raise Your Voices" (UMH #304)*

**Easter people raise your voices sounds of heaven in earth should ring.  
Christ has brought us Heaven's choices heavenly music let it ring.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.**

OPENING PRAYER

**O Lord, your wondrous birth means nothing unless we are born again, your death and sacrifice mean nothing unless we die to sin, your resurrection means nothing if you be risen alone. Raise and exalt us, O Savior, both now to the estate of grace and hereafter to the state of glory; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God for ever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN

*"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (UMH #302)*

**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!**

**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 thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

CALL TO PRAYER

*"Alleluia" (UMH #186)*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

MORNING PRAYER

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## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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### SCRIPTURE

*Mark 16:1-8 (CEB)*

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. **2** Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. **3** They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" **4** When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) **5** Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. **6** But he said to them, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. **7** Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you." **8** Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*"I Am the Lord of the Dance"*

Joel Raney

### SERMON

*"Looking Forward"*

Rev. David Lord

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### 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. Amen.**

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMN

*"Because He Lives" (UMH #364)*  
God sent His son, they called Him Jesus  
he came to love, heal, and forgive.  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

*Refrain:* Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.  
Because He lives, All fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
and feel the pride and joy he gives.  
But greater still the calm assurance,  
this child can face uncertain days because He lives.

*Refrain*

And then one day I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain.  
And then as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

*Refrain*

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SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Christ Has Risen!  
**Christ Has Risen, Indeed!**

Christ Has Risen!  
**Christ Has Risen, Indeed!**

Christ Has Risen!  
**Christ Has Risen, Indeed!**  
**Alleluia!**