

The background of the image is a vibrant, abstract marbled pattern. It features a complex, organic design with swirling, interconnected shapes in a variety of colors. The primary colors are shades of green, blue, and yellow, with darker purple and orange accents. The overall effect is reminiscent of a stained-glass window or a piece of hand-painted pottery.

Christ is  
Risen!

# Welcome to Worship

Welcome to Easter Sunday, 2021! Easter Sunday is the culmination of Holy Week, and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is considered the most important Christian festival, and the one celebrated with the greatest joy. The date of Easter changes each year, and other Christian festivals fix their dates by reference to Easter. Normally, our church would be filled with flowers. This year, though, we celebrate and worship online with scripture and songs!

## Prepare Your Heart

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

– Audrey Hepburn

"The Easter eggs symbolizes our ability to break out of the hardened, protective shell we've surrounded ourselves with that limits our thoughts and beliefs. As we break open our hearts and minds we discover a transformation to new, life enhancing thoughts and beliefs."

– Siobhan Shaw

"Easter is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life."

– Janine di Giovanni

"Easter spells out beauty, the rare beauty of new life."

– S.D. Gordon

## Order of Worship

**Bold type** denotes congregation speaking aloud.

Preparatory Music

Recorded by Jeb Barrett,

*Communion, Op. 8* by Louis Vierne  
*Jesus Christ is Risen Today* by Calvin Hampton

Welcome

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt

Call to Worship

Jane Hile

God of life and light,

For over 2000 years, Jesus' followers have mourned his crucifixion. For over a year, we've walked through the valley of COVID challenges. For 40 days we've journeyed through this Lenten season. We were not eye-witnesses to an event, as were Mary and the disciples, but we are here to attest to a story that has not lost its power during twenty centuries of change and conflict. We are here because those before us carried this story as if it were precious gold; cherished it as if it were the key to a hidden wisdom.

Friends, take your places here today in celebration and in awe. What you are about to hear again today, has the capacity to change the world. Your very presence attests to the rising up of life from the tomb of despair, and to the uncontrollable love of God. It is Easter morning, and we will celebrate.

**Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!!  
Let us worship together today!!**

Opening Music

*This is the Day*

UMH 657

Staying Connected

*Praise to the Lord* by Johann Gottfried Walther

Recorded by Jeb Barrett

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## Time of Prayer

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt and Pastor Sam Fisher

## Prayer

## Time of Reflection

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

*Please begin the Lord's Prayer using whichever metaphor for God works for your theology.*

*In this community, you will hear the traditional “Our Father” but, we also recognize the ways patriarchy is at play so many lead with “Our Creator.”*

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Spiritual Reading

## “I Will Sing a New Song” by Howard Thurman

C Blanck

## Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18 CEB

Jane Hile

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.<sup>2</sup> She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they’ve put him.”<sup>3</sup> Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb.<sup>4</sup> They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb.<sup>5</sup> Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn’t go in.<sup>6</sup> Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there.<sup>7</sup> He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus’ head. It wasn’t with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place.<sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.<sup>9</sup> They didn’t yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead.<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

<sup>11</sup> Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. <sup>13</sup> The angels asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

She replied, "They have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they've put him." <sup>14</sup> As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabbouni” (which means Teacher).

<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “Don’t hold on to me, for I haven’t yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, ‘I’m going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, “I’ve seen the Lord.” Then she told them what he said to her.

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## A Word of God for a people of God.

Thanks be to God.

## Message

## “Resurrection Takes Us By Surprise”

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt

Holy Communion

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt, Pastor Sam Fisher, and C Blanck

Reflection Song

“Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s *Messiah*

All Church Choir

Offering

Pastor Sam Fisher

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Or click “Online Giving” on the [www.ChristChurchColorado.org](http://www.ChristChurchColorado.org) home page.

Prayer of Thanks

Announcements

Blessing/Sending

Sending Song

*[Jesus Christ] is Risen Today*

UMH 302 vs. 1, 2

Time of Fellowship

