



HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS

RISEN

EASTER

April 12, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Jesus lives! Death and the grave could not hold Him! Easter changes everything! Here we see the guarantee that our sins have been forgiven and Satan eternally defeated. In faith, we believe Christ's resurrection ensures our own, and we hold to the blessed assurance that all who have died in the Lord will rise on the Last Day. By faith, we are able to look beyond this broken world and even beyond death and the grave because of Christ's empty tomb discovered early that first Easter Day. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

OPENING SENTENCES *Mark 16:1–3*

Pastor: When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ***"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"***

[Lyra Davidica. Public Domain]

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save,. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

Pastor: O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought and in word and in deed.

We confess that we have not lived as Your followers but have sought to go our own ways in directions that have not brought glory to You or blessing to others.

We confess that Your love has not reached others through us in every situation, that there have been times in which we have been loveless, thoughtless, and judgmental toward others, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

We confess that Your will has not been our priority at all times and that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless in our circle of family, neighbors, and friends and beyond.

We confess that we have not used every opportunity given to us to witness to the resurrection faith that is ours and have at times been slow to speak of the hope that is ours in Christ. And so we plead:

People: **Have mercy on us and forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

EPISTLE: **1 Corinthians 15:1–11**

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you ³as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL: **John 20:1–18**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

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

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY ***"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"***

[Samuel Medley / John Hatton. Public Domain]

(v 1, 2, 4, 5, 8)

I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence 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 to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

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

SERMON: “THE EASTER HORIZON OF HOPE!”

COVID-19: Where is your sting? Where is your victory?

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord’s resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: With humble thanksgiving, we acknowledge how our Lord Jesus became our servant, and how He took our place in suffering and rose again that we may be saved. Lead us to know with joy the gift of forgiveness, new life, and salvation in our daily lives. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We lift up all who are sick and in need, that they may know the blessing of God's healing and care, [*especially . . .*]. For those who are approaching the end of their earthly lives and those who mourn loved ones and the sting of death, let them see through tears of the grave Christ's empty tomb: faithful hope remains in the resurrection of all flesh as Christ Himself has conquered eternal death. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

(Additional petitions can be added. Each prayer ends with the words "Risen Lord, in Your mercy," and the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: 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 and ever. Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord, who hears the cries of all who mourn, bless you and keep you. The Lord, who raised Jesus from the grave as the firstfruit of His new creation, make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord, who calls you to take hold of that which is truly life and to look up and see His bountiful grace, mercy, and forgiveness, look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“My Redeemer Lives”

[Reuben Morgan © 1998 / Hillsongs Australia (admin. by Integrity's Hosanna! Music)/ASCAP; CCLI# 254312]

I know He rescued my soul.
His blood covered my sin.
I believe. I believe.
My shame He's taken away.
My pain is healed in His name.
I believe. I believe.
I'll raise a banner.
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
(REPEAT)
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
You lift my burden, I'll rise with You.
I'm dancing on this mountain top
To see Your kingdom come.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.
My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.

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Serving Us Today

Ministers ... The members of Trinity
Pastor ... Rev. Dennis Krueger
Organ & Guitar ... Katherine Herman
Keyboard ... Bruce & Kris Heckman

Bass ... Brian Makey
Singers ... Ellen Makey, Ken Mann
Flower Donation ... Bob & Anna Eising

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