



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Easter Sunday
April 5th, 2026

Quote for reflection:

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

—Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves: the King opens His gates and welcomes us into His courts.

Easter Procession—from Psalm 24

Pastor: The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.

Elders: *For He founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.*

Musicians: *Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place?*

Congregation: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

Elders: *Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.*

Musicians: *Who is this King of glory?*

Congregation: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

Elders: *Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.*

Musicians: *Who is this King of glory?*

Congregation: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory!

Sung Response—All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name, Vs. 1

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall; Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord of__ all. Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord__ of all." The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1779, John Rippon, 1787; Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1793, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839.

Call to Worship—from John 11:25–26; Job 19:25

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

All: I know that my Redeemer lives! Christ is risen!

Pastor: He is risen indeed!

Congregational Hymn—Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah!



Christ is ris - en! Hal - le - lu - jah! Ris - en our vic - tor-ious Head!
Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of His earth - ly life is o'er,
Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall;



Sing His prais - es! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
Thro' the op - en gates of glad - ness He re - turns to life once more;
We are Christ's, in Him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed ov - er all;



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore Him, as His light once more ap - pears,
Death and hell be - fore Him bend - ing, He doth rise, the vic - tor now,
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our tremb - ling hearts have ceased,



Bow - ing down in joy be - fore Him, ris - ing up from grief and tears,
An - gels on His steps at - tend - ing, glor - y round His wound - ed brow.
'Tis His day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.



Sing His prais - es! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
Thro' the op - en gates of glad - ness He re - turns to life once more.
We are Christ's, in Him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed ov - er all.

CCLI #2844402 Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: BEACH SPRING (FOUNT OF GLORY),
attr. B. F. White, 1844, R.W. Thompson, 1854, arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2010.

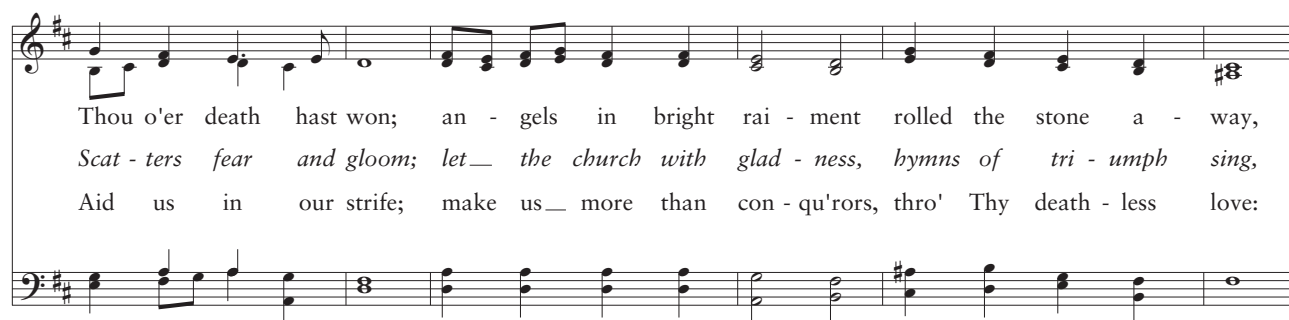
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts.

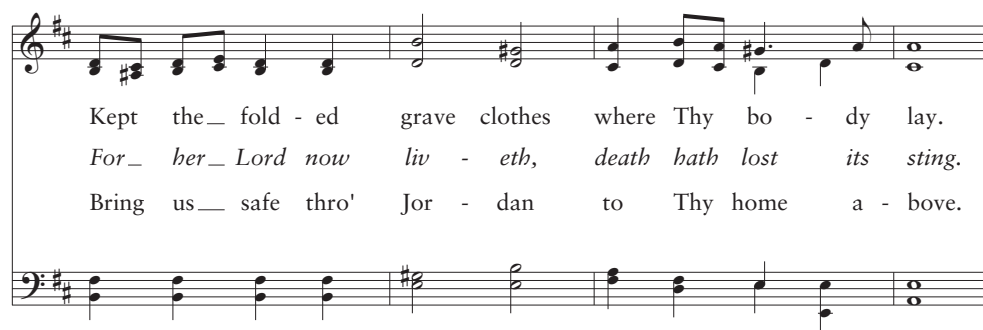
Congregational Hymn—Thine Be The Glory



Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en___ con - qu'ring Son: end - less is the vic - t'ry
Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en___ from the tomb; lov - ing - ly He greets us,
No more we doubt Thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is___naught with - out Thee:



Thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
Scat - ters fear and gloom; let___ the church with glad - ness, hymns of tri - umph sing,
Aid us in our strife; make us___ more than con - qu'rors, thro' Thy death - less love:



Kept the___ fold - ed grave clothes where Thy bo - dy lay.
For___ her___ Lord now liv - eth, death hath lost its sting.
Bring us___ safe thro' Jor - dan to Thy home a - bove.

Refrain



Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en___ con - qu'ring Son:
End - less___ is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

Text: Edmond Budry, 1884, tr. R. B. Hoyle, 1923; Music: MACCABAEUS,
from *Judas Maccabaeus*, George Frideric Handel, 1747.

Responsive Scripture Reading

Elder: God raised Jesus up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it. (Acts 2:24)

All: Thus, Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live.” (John 11:25)

Elder: For He who raised Christ from the dead will also raise us up by His power. (1 Corinthians 6:14)

All: Therefore, neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:38-39)

Elder: This is our Gospel hope! This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands



Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for our of - fens - es_ giv - en;
It was a strange and dread - ful strife when life and death con - tend - ed;
So let us keep the fes - ti - val to which the Lord in - vites us;



But now at God's right hand He stands and brings us life from Heav-en:
The vic - tor - y re - mained with life: the reign of death was_ end - ed.
Christ is Him - self the joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.



There - fore let us joy - ful be and sing God's prais - es thank - ful - ly
Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns, an emp - ty form a - lone re - mains;
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine to our hearts;



With songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Death's sting is lost for - ev - er! Al - le - lu - ia!
The night of sin is end - ed. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Martin Luther, 1524, tr. Richard Massie 1858; Music: CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN,
Medieval melody, arr. Johann Walther, 1524.

Sermon Text—Acts 28:17–31

After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, “Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. ¹⁸ When they had examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case. ¹⁹ But because the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar—though I had no charge to bring against my nation. ²⁰ For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.” ²¹ And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you. ²² But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.”

²³ When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets. ²⁴ And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved. ²⁵ And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: ²⁶ ‘Go to this people, and say, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” ²⁷ For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’ ²⁸ Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.”

³⁰ He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹ proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Unto Christ Who Loved Us



Un-to Christ, who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,
And has made us kings and priests un - to God and His Fa - ther:
Un-to Him be glo-ry and do-min-ion for - ev-er and ev-er. A - men.

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a colon, and the third with a period. The final note of the third staff is a whole note 'A' followed by a dash and 'men'.

CCLI #2844402 ©1936 Oxford University Press; Text: Revelation 1:5-6;
Music: UNTO HIM WHO LOVED US, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1936.

Sermon—*The Unhindered Gospel of Jesus*

—Pastor, James Crampton

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The people of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Confession of Sin

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death (Proverbs 14:12). The soul who sins shall die (Ezekiel 18:20), for the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

All: We have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).

Pastor: There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God (Romans 3:10–11).

All: All of us have turned aside, together we have become useless (Romans 3:12).

Pastor: And all those who hate God, love death (Proverbs 8:36).

All: Lord, we believe. Help us in our unbelief (Mark 9:24).

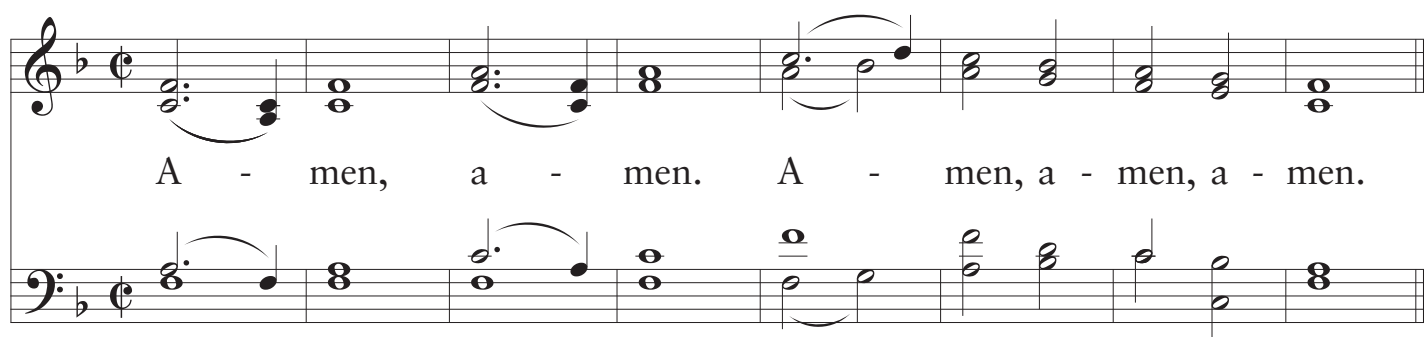
Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is the giver of life (Acts 17:25), the fountain of life (Psalm 36:9), the strength of life (Psalm 27:1), the prince of life (Acts 3:15), and the restorer of life (Ruth 4:15). God so loved the world, that He sent His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:54–56). Through death he destroyed the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and delivered all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery (Hebrews 2:14–15).

Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: What is impossible with man is possible with God.

Sung Response—Fivefold Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: Traditional African-American spiritual,
arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988.

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM

God feeds the faith of His people by giving them a meal. As God fellowships with them in faith, His people pledge their obedience to God and their love for one another.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God:

The Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,

From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;

The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

WOMEN

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, Lord. Ho-ly, ho-ly, God of pow'r and might,

MEN

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, Lord. Ho-ly, ho-ly, God of pow'r and might.

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est, Ho

high - est, Ho san-na in the high - est, Ho-san-na in the high - est. A - men.

san-na in the high - est, Ho san-na in the high - est. A - men.

CCLI #2844402 ©2009 Greyfriars Press. Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9;
Music: FRANKLIN SANCTUS, Gregory Wilbur, 2009.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.

Congregational Hymn—Nothing But The Blood



What can wash a - way my sin? Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;
For my par - don, this I see, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;
Noth-ing can for sin a - tone: Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
This is all my hope and peace, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



What can make me whole a - gain? Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
For my cleans - ing this my plea, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
Naught of good that I have done: Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.
This is all my right - eous - ness, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Refrain



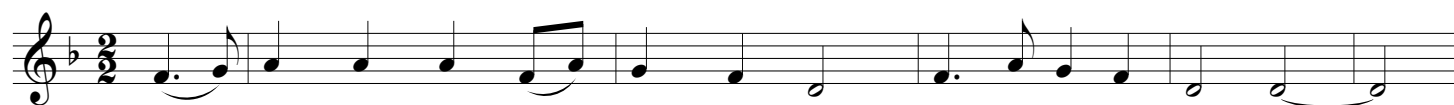
Oh! pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;—



No oth - er fount I know, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1876; Music: PLAINFIELD, Robert Lowry, 1876.

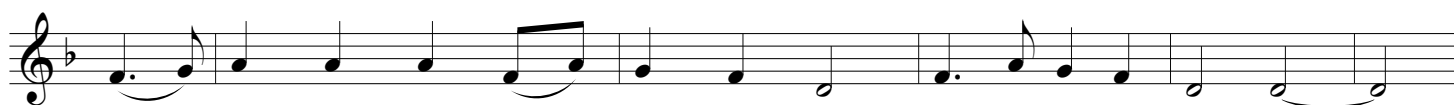
Congregational Hymn—I Know That My Redeemer Lives



I___ know that my re - deem - er lives, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to bless me___ with His love; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to crush the fiends of hell; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to plead my___ cause a - bove; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives and doth with - in me dwell; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



Shout___ on, pray on, we're gain - ing ground, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



The dead's a - live, and the lost is found, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1775; Music: ANTIOCH (SHOUT ON), F. C. Wood,
The Sacred Harp, 1850; arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2017.

GOD’S PEOPLE GRATEFULLY RESPOND WITH THEIR PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS, AND PRAISE

Praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship, moving our faith from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings. Offering boxes for both tithes and alms are located in the foyer.

Pastoral Prayer

Corporate Prayer—*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 debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Congregational Hymn—Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Christ, the Lord, is ris'n to - day, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Lives a - gain our glor - ious King, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Soar we now where Christ hath led, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Sons of men and an - gels say, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ hath burst the gates of hell, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids His rise, Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Once He died our souls to save, Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Sing, — ye — heav'ns, and Earth, re - ply, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ hath — o - pened par - a - dise, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Where thy — vic - to - ry, O grave? — Al - - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours — the — cross, the grave, the skies, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: EASTER HYMN, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—from Revelation 5:11–14

Pastor: I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice:

Elders: *“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”*

Pastor: And I heard every creature in Heaven and on Earth and under the Earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

Elders: *“To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.*

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Sung Response—Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low;

Praise Him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by His resurrection He has overcome death, so that He might make us share in the righteousness He obtained for us by His death. Second, by His power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

—*The Heidelberg Catechism*, Lord's Day 17

Key Words: Hope, Chain, Testify, Convince, Hear, See, Turn, Salvation, Boldness, Hindrance

Keystone Verses: [Paul was] proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.
(Acts 28:31)