



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Ordinary Time

11 July 2021

By raising Christ from death, God as the supreme Judge set His seal to the absolute perfection and completeness of His atoning work. The resurrection is a public announcement to the world that the penalty of death has been borne by Christ to its bitter end and that in consequence the dominion of guilt has been broken, the curse annihilated forevermore. —Geerhardus Vos

Therefore, we divide the substance of our salvation between Christ's death and resurrection as follows: through His death, sin was wiped out and death extinguished; through His resurrection, righteousness was restored and life raised up, so that—thanks to His resurrection—His death manifested its power and efficacy in us. —John Calvin

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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

Gospel Invitation—John 11:25a

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Introit—Rejoice, The Lord Is King, Vs. 1

Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!

Re - joice, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more;

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system ends with a double bar line. The third system ends with a double bar line.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 47:1-4, 6-8

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy.

All: For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared, a great King over all the earth.

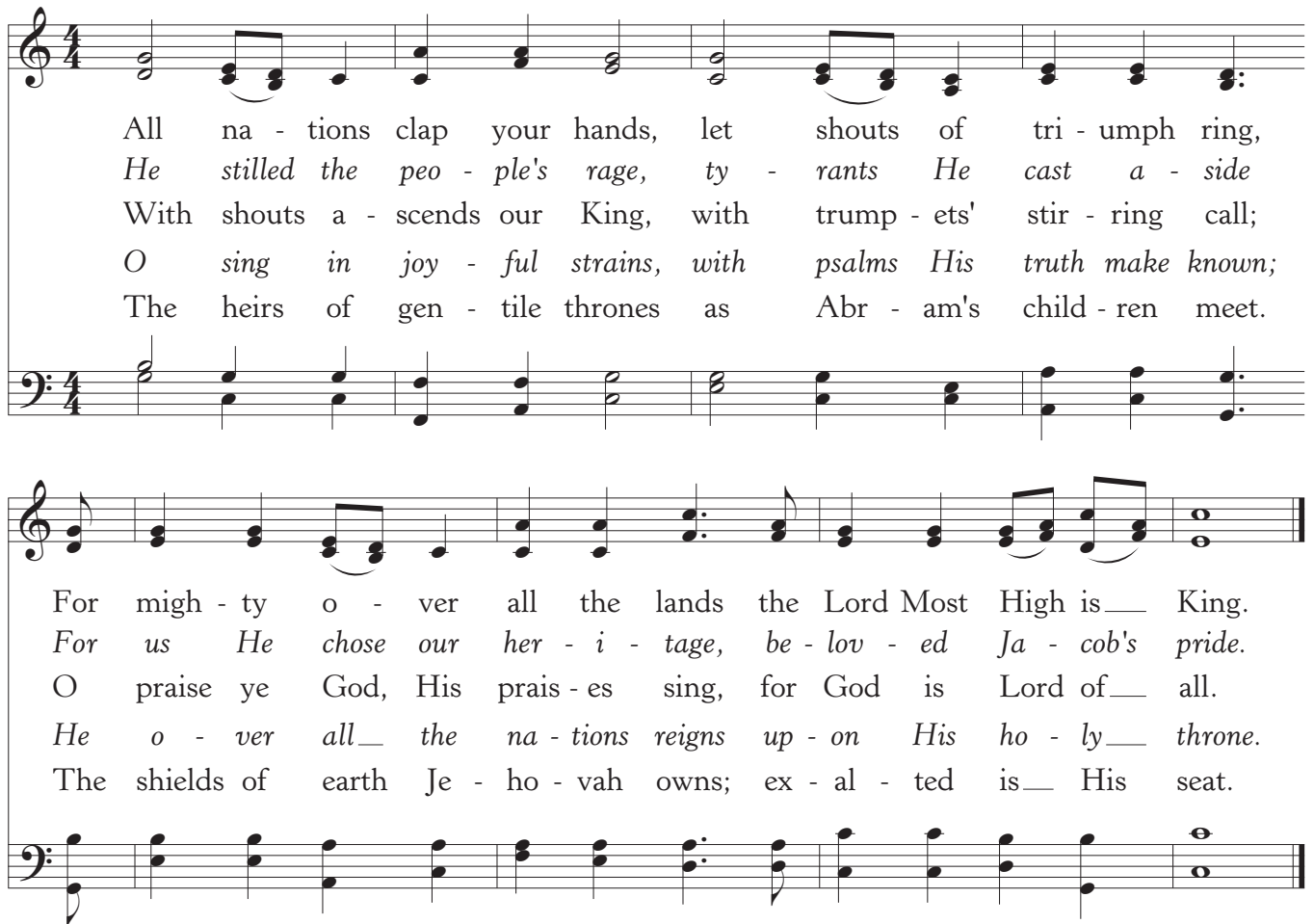
Reader 1: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

Reader 2: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom He loves.

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Leader: For God is the king of all the earth; God reigns over the nations, God sits on His holy throne. Sing praises to our God!

Psalm of Praise—All Nations Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47)



All na - tions clap your hands, let shouts of tri - umph ring,
He stilled the peo - ple's rage, ty - rants He cast a - side
With shouts a - scends our King, with trump - ets' stir - ring call;
O sing in joy - ful strains, with psalms His truth make known;
The heirs of gen - tile thrones as Abr - am's child - ren meet.

For migh - ty o - ver all the lands the Lord Most High is___ King.
For us He chose our her - i - tage, be - lov - ed Ja - cob's pride.
O praise ye God, His prais - es sing, for God is Lord of___ all.
He o - ver all___ the na - tions reigns up - on His ho - ly___ throne.
The shields of earth Je - ho - vah owns; ex - al - ted is___ His seat.

Text: *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, Alt. Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018;
Music: THIRD AVENUE, Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018.

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. God particularly entreats us in His Word to sing psalms. And while all Scripture is appropriate for hymns and spiritual songs, there is a specific exhortation for us to make use of the Psalter as the church's songbook.

Psalm of Praise—The Lord I Will At All Times Bless (Psalm 34)



The Lord I will at all times bless; with praise my mouth employ;—
O children, come, and gather round for wisdom you should hear;—
The troubles that afflict the just in number many be;—



My soul shall in Jehovah boast, the humble hear with joy—
I'll teach you how to understand and seek the Lord with fear—
But God delivers from them all the righteous He sets free.—



O let us magnify the Lord, exalt His name with me.—
Restrain your lips from speaking lies, control your foolish tongue.—
Your bones He carefully will keep, whatever shall befall,—



Look up to Him, and so your faces radiant shall be.
Depart from ill, do good, seek peace, so shall your days be long.
For not so much as one of them can be broken at all.

Chorus



Taste— and see— that the Lord— is good;— Take refuge in— His blessing—

Last time, to Coda



Fear— Him, you saints:— those who fear— the Lord lack no— good thing.

Coda



The righteous cry unto the Lord salvation He imparts;—



The Lord is ever near to them who ache from broken hearts.— A— men.

Text: *The Psalter with Music*, 1900, Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021;
Music: BETHESDA, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ ... grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise—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.

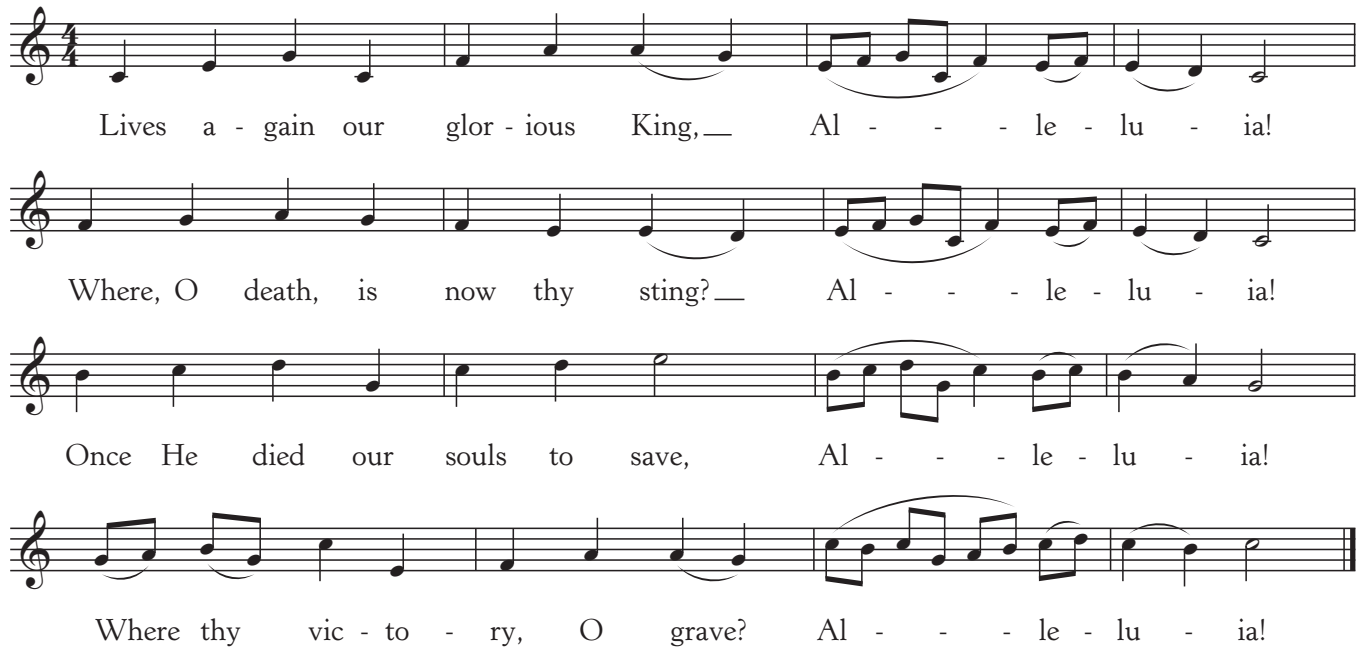
Reading of the Word—1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Christ The Lord Is Risen Today, Vs. 3



The image shows four staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Lives a - gain our glor - ious King, — Al - - - le - lu - ia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? — Al - - - le - lu - ia! Once He died our souls to save, Al - - - le - lu - ia! Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - - le - lu - ia!"

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

Sermon—*The Gospel: Of First Importance*

—Associate Pastor, Brian Phillips

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—based on Psalm 5:1-8; Romans 2:4, Daniel 9:18

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Give ear to our words, O Lord; consider our groanings.

All: Give attention to the sound of our cry, our King and our God, for to You do we pray.

Pastor: For You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You.

All: The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful men.

Pastor: Through the abundance of Your steadfast love, we will enter Your house and bow before You.

All: We confess that we have trusted in our own righteousness. O Lord, lead us in Your righteousness and make our way straight before You.

Pastor: We know that it is Your kindness, O Lord, that is meant to lead us to repentance.

All: For we do not present our pleas before You because of our righteousness, but because of Your great mercy.

Assurance of Pardon—Titus 3:4-7; Romans 1:16-17

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Therefore, I am not ashamed of the Gospel.

All: It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

Pastor: For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Sung Response—Man of Sorrows, Vs. 3

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Guilt-y, vile, and help-less we; Spot-less Lamb of God was He; 'Full a - tone - ment!' can it be? Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!"

Text and Music: Phillip P. Bliss, 1875.

HEAVENLY GIFT—EUCCHARISTO

As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.

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, God of pow'r and might

MEN

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might Hea-ven and Earth are

Hea-ven and Earth are full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hos-

Lord. Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; Music: CLOVERCROFT SANCTUS, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

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.

Hymn of Praise—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

A - las! and did my Sa - vior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die! —
Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned up - on the tree? —
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and shut his glor - ies in, —
Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap - pears; —
But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe; —

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
When Christ, the migh - ty ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes in tears.
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1824.

Hymn of Praise—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!
Through 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!
Through 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.

Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: FOUNT OF GLORY, R.W. Thompson, 1864,
Arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2010. ©2010 Gregory Wilbur.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—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.*

Hymn of Praise—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, Samuel Wood,
The Sacred Harp, 1850; Arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2017.

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—Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

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, 1709; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Here at the beginning of 1 Corinthians 15, Paul returns to the theme of the bodily resurrection of Jesus: Christ really, physically died and rose again. You'll probably notice that many of the hymns we sing this morning are associated with the Lenten or Easter seasons. While we typically encounter *Christ The Lord Is Risen Today*, *Man Of Sorrows, Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*, *Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah*, or *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* in the springtime, every Lord's day is a kind of "Easter Sunday." As Paul says, it is of "first importance" that the Savior bled and died "for man the creature's sin." Because our glorious King lives again, the sting of death is taken away. Because Christ is risen, "henceforth never death or hell shall us enthrall." Our Redeemer lives to bless us, to plead our cause, and to crush the fiends of hell. Because these simple truths are so foundational to our faith, we must be reminded of them again and again. So, to use Luther's language in *Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands*, "let us keep the festival to which the Lord invites us." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Gospel, Preach, Received, Believe, Grace, Died, Buried, Raised, Appeared
Keystone Verses: For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)



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Elders Emeritus

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Deacons

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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.