

Sunday, April 20th
Easter Sunday

Prelude

Easter Proclamation

Christ has risen!

Christ has risen indeed!

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“The Lord is Risen Today” by Charles Wesley & George M Vail

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Call to Worship

My dear friends, we have known grief.

We have known loss.

We have known the long road, tired and winding.

We have whispered prayers on bended knees.

We have stared at the sky, empty of stars.

But today—

today we know hope.

Today we know life.

Today we know the sound of Alleluias.

Today we know that death does not have the last word.

Today we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

It is Easter. May hope find you.

And may you know, deep in your bones, that today is a new day.

Alleluia! Amen.

***Hymn**

“Because You Live, O Christ”

New Century Hymnal #231

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Prayer for Illumination

God of new beginnings, on that first Easter morning, the disciples struggled to hear the good news. Doubt clouded their minds. Negativity took root and hope vanished with a simple shake of their heads. As we return to this familiar text, help us to hear differently this morning. **Open our ears that we might hear the sound of Alleluias ringing through this text. Open up our minds that the mystery and joy of Easter might feel within reach. Open up our hearts that we might believe the unbelievable. And like Peter, in this hearing, may we move closer to you. God of the empty tomb, we are hungry for your good news. Speak to us now. With hope in our hearts we listen and we pray, amen.**

Anthem

“Hallelujah Chorus” by George F. Handel

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Scripture

Luke 24:1-12

Ted Anson

***Hymn**

“Morning Breaks, The World Awakens” *please see insert*

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Sermon

“everything [in] between: grief & hope”

Rev. Abby Gackenheimer

Music of Reflection

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Prayer Response

“Hear Our Prayer”

by H.M. Teasdale

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Call to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology** *Pilgrim Hymnal #515* **[alternative words]* © public domain

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him [God], all creatures here below
Praise Him [God] above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father [Creator], Son [Christ], and Holy Ghost. Amen***

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

God, we offer you these gifts, and pray that you would take this offering and turn it into ministry. Use these gifts to transform the world we live in to better reflect the home you have envisioned for us—a home of peace, a home built on the foundation of love. Gratefully we pray, amen.

***Hymn**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

New Century Hymnal #233

Contributors: Words Charles Wesley, 1739; Tune: Easter Hymn arr. from Lyra Davidica, 1708. Word alt. © 1992, The Pilgrim Press. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under One License #739919-A. All rights reserved.

Benediction

Benediction Response ***“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*** *by Ludwig van Beethoven*

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Postlude

Worship Liturgy: by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.” Everything [in]between.

Hymn: Morning Breaks, the World Awakens by Hannah C. Brown & Sally Ann Morris © 2024 GIA Publications. Used with Permission for Bridgewater Congregational Church use. Copy purchased March 2024. Licensed with OneLicense.

Because You Live, O Christ

Luke 24:1-10

Shirley Erena Murray, 1987

1 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the gar - den of the
 2 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the spir - it bird of
 3 Be - cause you live, O Christ, the rain - bow of your

world has come to flow - er, the shad - ows of the tomb
 hope is freed for fly - ing, our ca - ges of de - spair
 peace will span cre - a - tion, the col - ors of your love

are flood - ed with your res - ur - rec - tion pow - er.
 no long - er keep us closed and life - de - ny - ing.
 will draw all hu - man - kind to ad - o - ra - tion.

The stone has rolled a - way and death can - not im - pris - on! O

sing this Eas - ter Day, for Je - sus Christ has ris - en, has

ris - en, has ris - en, has ris - en!

MORNING BREAKS, THE WORLD AWAKENS

GREENING POWER
Sally Ann Morris

Hannah C. Brown



1. Morn - ing breaks, the world a - wak - ens,
2. In a gar - den, met with won - ders,
3. You bear wounds yet com - fort oth - ers,



ach - ing hearts must face the day, brav - ing now a
ten - der hearts seek what is true. Emp - ty, long - ing,
shar - ing peace and breath and bread, car - ing for the



world that's shak - en, dar - ing still to breathe, to
gripped with hun - ger, we reach for a touch from
ones who suf - fer, call - ing us to give and



stay. Who are we with - out your pres - ence?
you. What is this strange rev - e - la - tion,
mend. How can we be - come your bod - y



Who will move our stone a - way?
plant - ing seeds of hope a - new? Here a - mong us
here on earth as you as - cend?



green - ing pow - er, here a - bove us dawn - ing skies;



here a - round us grow - ing prom - ise, here with - in us love will

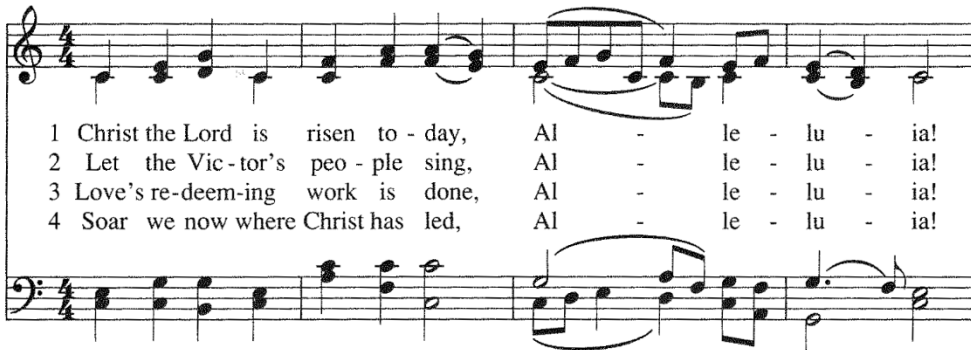


rise.

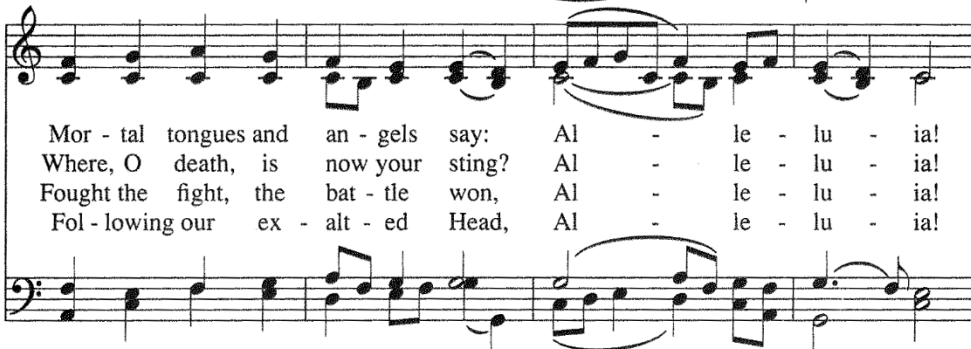
Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.



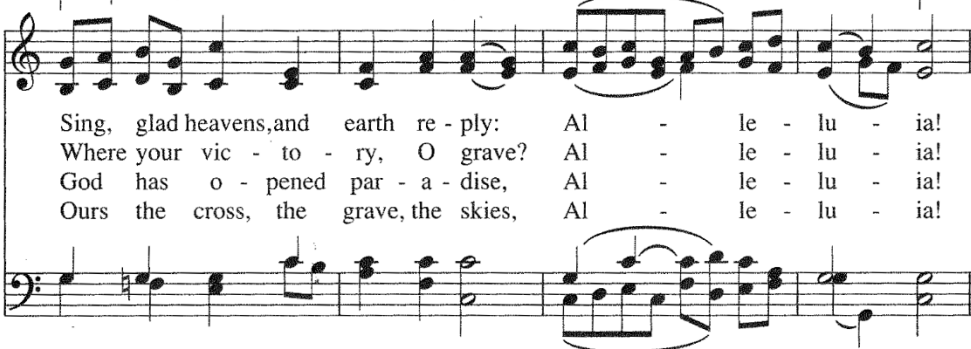
1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!



Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!



Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

The unknown editor of Lyra Davidica wanted music with more movement and spirit than found in the grave, slow-paced psalm tunes, with one note to a syllable. Easter Hymn was among the first of a new popular style.

Tune: EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with alleluias
 Arr. from Lyra Davidica, London, 1708