

Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship (Responsive)
The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Let us, therefore, worship him;

Let us worship him in Spirit and Truth.

Hymn: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Invocation

#277

The Law of Christ:

Col 3:8-9

Pastor: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God by saying:

Congregation: But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore let us confess our sin.

Corporate Confession of sin:

Gracious Lord, I am a miserable sinner. You have called me to rise up with wings of eagles to run and not be weary and to walk and not faint; but I am weary, and I have fainted under the pressure of temptation and often I am crawling around on the ground like a scavenger looking for bread. I have forgotten just how much I have been forgiven, and how great your grace is. You have commanded me not to love the world, but I am drawn away by the lusts of my eyes, the lusts of my flesh and by the pride of life. I am a constant liability to you, but by your grace you preserve me and cause me to persevere. Remind me once again of the foulness of my sin and the excellence of Jesus sacrifice. Remind me that I am your child and owe my entire position to you my Lord and Savior. Cause me to remember that your Resurrection life has come to me as a gift of your grace! Renew my will that I would do all that I do in the name of and for the glory of My Blessed Savior, your only begotten Son Jesus Christ through whose merits I pray. Amen.

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Isa 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ

All: Praise and glory be to God: the Father who loved us, God the Son who died and rose again for us, and God the Holy Spirit who dwells within us!

Pastor: 1 Cor 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Congregation: Holy Lord God, hear our words of thanks for sending us your Spirit, and that he now resides in us. Help us to follow him in all our thoughts, words, and actions, so that we would live to your glory. May He cause the love of Christ to shine forth from us in loving you and our neighbor. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Response:

I Know That My Redeemer Lives – Glory Hallelujah!

#281

Confession of Faith:

Nicene Creed

p846

Song: Christ is Risen, He's Risen Indeed

How can it be, the One who died,
Has borne our sin through sacrifice
To conquer every sting of death?
Sing, sing hallelujah.

For joy awakes as dawning light
When Christ's disciples lift their eyes.
Alive He stands, their Friend and King;
Christ, Christ He is risen.

CHORUS

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!
Oh, sing hallelujah.
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed;
Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.

Where doubt and darkness once had been,
They saw Him and their hearts believed.
But blessed are those who have not seen,
Yet, sing hallelujah.

Once bound by fear now bold in faith,
They preached the truth and power of grace.
And pouring out their lives they gained
Life, life everlasting.

CHORUS

The power that raised Him from the grave
Now works in us to powerfully save.
He frees our hearts to live His grace;
Go tell of His goodness.

CHORUS

Pastoral Prayer

New Testament reading
Psalter: Psalm 16:1-11

(Tune Leominster NT 169)

John 10:22-42

**Preserve me, O my God;
I put my trust in You.
LORD, I confess, You are my Lord;
No good have I but You.
The godly ones on earth,
Those holy in Your sight,
The noble and majestic ones,
Fill me with great delight.**

**The lines that fell to me
Enclose a pleasant site.
The heritage that I received
To me is a delight.
I bless the LORD Who guides
With counsel that is right.
My heart within me He directs
To teach me in the night.**

**My soul You will not leave
In death's dark pit to be.
Corruption You will not permit
Your Holy One to see.
The path of life You'll show;
Of joy You hold great store.
Before Your face, at Your right hand,
Are pleasures evermore.**

Epistle Reading: Philipians 3:1 -11
Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord.

To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.
Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.
**For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ
Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh--though I myself have reason for confidence
in the flesh also.**

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

circumcised on the eighth day,
of the people of Israel,
of the tribe of Benjamin,
a Hebrew of Hebrews;
as to the law, a Pharisee;
as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;
as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

**Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord.**

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—
that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Sermon: The First to Rise from the Dead

Acts 26:20-32

The Lord's Supper

Bread: The Day of Resurrection

#267

Cup: Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us - and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ,
Torn for you - eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
Shed for you - drink and remember
He drained death's cup that we may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond, - and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering
We proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King

Offering:

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer

Hymn: Up from the Grave He Arose

#276

Benediction

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