



# Easter Worship

April 9, 2023

*This is the day  
the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

\* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able  
*italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation*

## **HANDBELL PRELUDE**

Canticle of Praise

McChesney

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rejoice! There is great news! Christ is risen!*

**Christ is risen, indeed!**

*Let all the earth proclaim the joy!*

**Let all heaven show forth in praise.**

*Alleluia!*

**Alleluia!**

## **\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Holy and Living God, like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light, open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another, and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #232** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today Paul Wachtendorf, trumpet; Sue Lewis, organ

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

3. 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!

4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS**

**Living Lord, when we stand before the empty tomb we don't always feel the joy of resurrection. We feel fear, doubt, and distrust. We feel empty. Forgive the fear that paralyzes us at the brink of new life. Forgive our doubt of your love. Forgive our distrust of your surprising, joyous plan. Fill our emptiness with your glorious light. Raise us to abundant new life for the glory of your name. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING**

**...Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Psalm 118

**HANDBELL AND CHOIR ANTHEM** Alleluia! He Lives Today

Hirt

**CHOIR ANTHEM** Easter Bells, Set Free Your Music

arr. Steward Harris

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**\*HYMN #236** The Strife Is O'er

1. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed: let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped; Christ rises glorious from the dead: all glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

4. Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Matthew 28:1-10

**SERMON** Ta-Da!

**\*AN EASTER AFFIRMATION** by Larry Peacock

**We believe in God**

who brings sunshine after rain and works healing in the midst of pain; who looks into each soul with love, touches each memory with blessings and longs for us to know we are beloved; who splashes the world with springtime color and fills the air with the singing of birds and the roar of the ocean; who meets us at the tomb of our fears and sends us out with hope and joy.

**We believe in Jesus**

the Risen Christ, the friend of the forgotten, Savior of the world; who loves us without judgment yet persuades us to change; who joins us as we walk and work with the poor and oppressed; who befriends us when we feel lonely, surprises us when we feel bored, prods us when we get complacent; who loves all children, dances with the elderly, shows compassion to the dying and blesses the breaking of bread.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit**

who weaves us into communities of faith of all ages, nations and races; who is the stillness in every silence, the breath in every deep sigh, the love in every tender embrace.

**We believe we are called to be an Easter people**

challenging despair with glowing hope, acting peacefully in the midst of painful Good Fridays, and living joyfully even in the midst of harsh realities.

**We believe in the church**

the hand-holding, heartily-singing and passionate-caring fellowship of seekers and finders.

This we believe. Amen.

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY**

An Easter Jubilee

Joseph Graham

Courtney Woolslayer, Charlie and Rachel Dell'Orefice, soloists

***\*DOXOLOGY***

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION***

**Generous God, we offer these gifts as our testimony to your glory and as our commitment as your disciples. Bless our gifts to your work in the world and to your reign here on earth. Through your blessing of our gifts, may death be destroyed and hope fill all of creation. Amen.**

***SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS***

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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 #233***      The Day of Resurrection!

1. The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad, the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.

From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

2. Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light, and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victory strain.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;  
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.

Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

***\*BENEDICTION***

***POSTLUDE***



**ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 9, 2023.**

**This week's carillon is in memory of Emma Rockafellow.**

**Easter Egg Hunt today following Worship.**

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Today is the final day for donation to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

**Food Pantry Needs:** This week we are asking for the following items: **Jell-O gelatin or Vanilla, Chocolate/Butterscotch pudding.** Bring your item(s) to the church during the week or next Sunday morning. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

**April Friday Night Fellowship Sign Up:** We will gathering for a meal and a mission, April 14. The theme is *Italian Night*. Spaghetti and meatballs will be provided. We will need a couple of salads and bread as well as dessert. Part of our mission project is collecting new or gently used shoes for Soles 4 Souls. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office for Friday Night Fellowship.

**Vacation Bible School:** Save the date – June 26-30, 9:00 am – Noon at The Anchor Presbyterian Church. Please contact Pastor Su if you can help. **Register here: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/62355b>**

**Calendar:**

<b>April 9 Easter Sunday</b>	9:00 am	All are welcome to join us for Breakfast.
	10:00 am	Easter Worship Service
	11:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt.
<b>April 10</b>	7:00 pm	Christian Education Meeting
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
<b>April 11</b>	6:00 pm	Beekeepers

**April 12**

9:00 am Worship and Music Meeting

12:00 pm Bring your Brown bag lunch for fellowship

6:00 pm Beekeepers

7:00 pm Mission Meeting

**April 14**

6:00 pm Friday Night Fellowship, Italian Night

**Elder of the month:** Amy Raab

**Deacon of the month:** Maggie Realley

*In our thoughts and prayers:*

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Ray and Joan Curran, Alvin Cornell,  
Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Bill Yerkes, David Posnett, Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza

**Church Staff**

**Susan Fall, Pastor**

**Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music**

**Sue Lewis, Handbell Director**

**Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator**

**Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager**

