

April 26, 2020 ~ Third Sunday Of Easter

PRELUDE: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" ... Doris Akers/arranged by Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISMS:

30-Mark Facknitz

30-Bill Painter

GATHERING SONG: No. 243 - "Be Not Afraid"

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

**God has given us a new birth in the living hope
of the resurrection.**

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable
and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;
and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.

*OPENING SONG OF PRAISE: No. 231- "Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers"

Christ has risen while earth slumbers;

Christ has risen where hope died,

as he said and as he promised,

as we doubted and denied.

Let the moon embrace the blessing;

let the sun sustain the cheer;

let the world confirm the rumor:

Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people
whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and for ever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

**God, you have made known to us the ways of life.
Yet, too often, we put other things above you
and turn away from the ways of life
and toward the ways of death.
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,
that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.**

Time for silent confession...

AMEN.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 251 – "Christ has Arisen, Alleluia" v. 5 and refrain

Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly King.
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Luke 24:13-35 | John 20:19-31

SERMON: "Now What?"

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: NO. 817 – "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One
of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC: Lizzy Healy - "Rescue"

*DOXOLOGY: - No. 239 - "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" v. 4

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*FINAL HYMN: NO. 826 - "Lift High the Cross"

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.
Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)

All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. (Refrain)

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally. (Refrain)

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory. (Refrain)

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION: "Every Morning is Easter Morning" v. 1 and Coda

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!
Good-bye guilt, good-bye fear, good riddance! Hello, Lord, Hello, sun!
I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
From now on!

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Prelude:

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

Doris Akers, arr. Mark Hayes

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"Lift High the Cross"

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"Easter People/Every Morning is Easter Morning"

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