



EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 4 at 10AM

St. John's United Church of Christ
Orwigsburg, PA
Pastor Jeff Johnson

Easter Sunday
April 4, 2021

GATHERING

Meditation

“The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.” Robert Flatt

Chimes

Prelude / Opening Hymn “*Christ The Lord is Risen*” - arr. Dallas Blair
Andrew Johnson, saxophone

Verse 1

Christ the Lord is risen today Alleluia!
All creation, join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Verse 2

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where O death is now thy sting Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Verse 3

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Welcome and Announcements

Lifting up our Joys

Passing of the Peace

✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)

This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news—once we were no people; now we are God's people.

Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

Hallelujah!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

✠ Opening Prayer

✠ Prayer of Confession

Each of us believes that God already knows our sins and that He will forgive them if we come to Him and confess and repent of our sins. Let us now take silent time to review our week and see where we have done wrong or not done good that we could have done and confess to our Lord. **Amen**

(Silent reflection)

✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This is God's gift to us and the world so that we can know abundant life.

Bible Readings

Isaiah 25: 6-9; John 20: 1-18

Jarrold Kramer

Children's Message and Blessing

Message

"We Have Seen the Lord!"

Pastor Jeff

Hymn of Response

"Christ Arose!"

Low in the grave He lay
Jesus, my Saviour
Waiting the coming day
Jesus, my Lord

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose, He arose
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed
Jesus, my Saviour
Vainly they seal the dead
Jesus, my Lord

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose, He arose
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot his prey
Jesus, my Saviour (My Saviour)

He tore the bars away
Jesus, my Lord

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose, He arose
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

✠ **Statement of Faith- The Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

✠ **Invitation to the Table**

✠ **Communion Prayer**

Pastor Jeff

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, and to worship you in every place where your glory abides. By

your power you raised Jesus from death to life. Through his victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God.

In his rising to life you promise eternal life to all who believe in him. We praise you that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us. And so we join with all creation to praise you saying:

✠ **Sanctus** (*recited*)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

(the congregation may be seated)

Words of Institution

Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Blessing of the Elements

Pastor Jeff

Gracious God, help us recognize the risen Christ with us as we partake of the bread and the cup. Open our eyes, warm our hearts, send your Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Partaking of the Elements

Take and eat; this is the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**

Take and drink; this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(congregation may be seated)

Closing Hymn

“Thine is the Glory” - arr. Dallas Blair
Andrew Johnson, saxophone

Thine be the glory
Risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won

Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where Thy body lay

Thine be the glory
Risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won

Lo! Jesus meets us
Risen from the tomb
Lovingly, He greets us
Scatters fear and gloom

Thine be the glory
Risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

Postlude

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Diane Bish