



April 12, 2020

As believers in Jesus Christ, we strive with unconditional love and selflessness – using our God given gifts – to provide a nurturing shelter for those seeking a Christian home. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, education, fellowship, prayer and Christian action throughout our community and the world.

**Called by God
Sharing with the World**

Easter
April 12, 2020

GATHERING

Meditation

“If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” -Colossians 3:1

Prelude

Christ The Lord is Risen Today
Christopher Holler, Saxophone

Opening Hymn

Christ The Lord is Risen Today

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 & Sharing of Good News of God's Work Among Us

*Because of these extraordinary times, we have been granted permission to serve and receive the Sacrament of Communion for this Easter Sunday 2020, only. Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion and invite all baptized Christian to join together at the Lord's Table. **If you are viewing this service on Easter Sunday and wish to have communion, please be prepared with bread/cracker and wine/juice/water.** The elements for communion were consecrated by Reverend Shawn Van Dyke for our use on Easter. We have permission for our congregation to receive the elements at home in an attitude of receptivity to the Holy Spirit uniting the Body of Christ across time and space.*

✠ Opening Prayer

Christ has Risen, He has risen indeed! Come let us give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever! This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Today the Stone is rolled away and we ask Lord that You remove our burdens of being confined to home. Take away our sadness of not being able to worship together in this Holy sanctuary, knowing that we are together with you Lord. Inspire us with the Holy Spirit and lift us up so we can rejoice in the resurrection, let us celebrate Life Eternal in the Kingdom of Heaven. Amen

✠ 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.

(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 *Matthew 20: 17-23* *Luke 24: 13-27*

Children's Message and Blessing

Special Music

Alive - (Mary Magadlene)
Ally Murphy, Solo

Natalie Grant

Today's Message

"Empty"

✠Statement of Faith- The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the almighty Father,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**We believe in the one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,**

Begotten of the Father from all eternity:

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God:
begotten, not made, one in being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. By the power
of the Holy Spirit**

he was born of the virgin Mary and became Man.

**He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died, and was buried.**

He arose on the third day in accordance with the scriptures.

He entered into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and
his kingdom will never end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

Together with the Father and the Son he is adored and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(From Immersed in the Splendor of God, Rev. Dr. F. Russ Mitman)

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people, Life up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord!

Leader: We praise you, O Christ for your resurrection triumph over the powers of sin and death, assuring us that, because you live, we shall live also and nothing can separate us from your love.

People: Thanks be to God for giving us the victory!

Leader: We remember your Passover communion with those gathered at table with you and recall your Easter encounter in the breaking of the bread with those you met on the road to Emmaus.

People: Thanks be to God for giving us the victory!

Leader: We rejoice in the dawning of new life you promise the world, offering hope to the hopeless, voice to the voiceless, justice to those who suffer injustice, peace to those who know no peace, health to those who have no health, and love for those who have no love.

People: Thanks be to God for giving us the victory!

Leader: We offer you these gifts, a sacrifice of our praise thanksgiving, praying that as we eat and drink at this joyous feast of resurrection our eyes may be opened, and we may know you with us I the breaking of this bread.

✠ Communion Prayer

Leader: We give you thanks Holy One, almighty and eternal God, always and everywhere, through Jesus Christ. We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. Above all, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. By his obedience to you, by his suffering on the cross, and his resurrection from the dead, he delivered us from the way of sin and death. We praise you that Jesus now reigns with you in glory and ever lives to pray for us. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, leading us into truth, defending us in adversity, and uniting us in one holy church. Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and on earth, we worship and glorify you, God Most Holy.

Jesus' Words of Institution

Leader: The Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, while they were eating, took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, broke it, gave it to them, and said,
“Take; this is my body.” Then Jesus took a cup and after giving thanks, gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. Jesus said to them, “This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never drink again of the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the Kingdom of God.”
Great is the mystery of faith;

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

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Our Savior (*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**

Call to the Supper

Sharing the Bread and Cup

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by
granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for
one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing
in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

✠Sending Forth and Final Blessing

Worship Leaders:

Jamie Barton & Kay Jones