

# EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 17, 2022

**GATHERING SONG** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*  
Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

UMH #158

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend, to us he'll condescend;  
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"



## WELCOME

## CENTERING WORDS

L: Christ is risen bringing joy, hope, and the promise of new life. May this day be a celebration of God's abiding presence in our lives and in our world.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Christ is risen!

**P: Christ is risen indeed!**

L: This is the day the Lord has made.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## OPENING HYMN

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

UMH #302

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

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

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!

## **OPENING PRAYER** (spoken in unison)

God of new life and new possibilities, we gather to sing our songs of gladness and to share in Your steadfast love. Some of us come from the shadows of our lives, as we anticipate the light. Some of us come eager to learn, but are unaware of what it all means. Some of us come in grief, grateful to discover hope. Wherever we have come from, may we all find You, the risen Christ, the One who conquered death and proclaimed new life for all. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

L: Brother and sisters, siblings in Christ, we are witnesses to the resurrection story. As witnesses, may we find hope in Christ and be assured of God's grace, forgiveness, and steadfast love.

**P: Amen.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC** *"Old Rugged Cross"*

Eric James – Vocalist

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken in 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

## **OFFERING & DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

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. Amen.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

## **THE LESSON**

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

L: The Word of the Lord.      **P: Thanks be to God!**

## **SERMON**

"Back From The Grave"

Rev. Richard Baker

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
He comes to claim the here and now and dwell in every place and time.**

**Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
But daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns.**

**In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
He suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is right and good...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**P: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

L: ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**P: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

L: ...All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever

**P: Amen.**

*(at this time, we invite you to partake of the elements: the bread and the grapes, as a sign of God's love for all)*

### **COMMUNION HYMN** *Celtic Alleluia*

TFWS #2043

Refrain:

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

### **BENEDICTION**

L: Christ is risen! Go and preach the good news: "I have seen the Lord!" Go in peace.

**P: Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

UMH #327

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.**

**His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet  
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.**

