

Liturgy of Word & Sacrament for the Resurrection of Christ

Sunday, April 4, 2021

6:30 am

Zion UCC, Lowden

BOLD PRINT = congregation

*Indicates those who are able, please stand

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US



Our Worship Begins in pre-Dawn Darkness and Silence

RINGING THE BELL

*OPENING RESPONSES

based on John 20 & Acts 10: 38-40

Who will roll away the stone?

The stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty.

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

He is not here.

Remember what He told you?

Remember what He said - what He did ?

. . . how He went about making people whole

ALL: - **for God was with Him!**

Hearts pounding, we race from an empty tomb

He is not here! Christ is risen - Alleluia!

PRELUDE

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

The Paschal Candle is carried in and the Resurrection light of Christ dawns . . .

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! He is risen! Alleluia! He is risen. Christ is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

Go and tell the others, He is going ahead of you.

Christ is risen!

We are witnesses.

Christ is alive - Alleluia!

ALL: **Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ has risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

Christ is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

*HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

*OPENING PRAYER *(spoken all together)*

**God of eternal happy endings,
Your whole universe sings today with joy - including us.
We thank you for all your gifts that bring us messages:
Tiny children taking their first joyful steps,
Wildflowers everywhere we walk,
Stars, oceans, mountains showing us scraps of your power,
Great-grandparents leaving legacies of love,
Birds patiently building nests,
People planning together for justice and kindness,
And challenges for us - far too often injustice
and lack of kindness.
Our feet barely touch your earth today.
Anything you need us to do, we can do.
He is risen! He is risen! He is risen! Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 10: 34 - 43

GOSPEL

John 20: 1 - 18



WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION *Second Chances*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Crossroads* by Kevin Olson

*DOXOLOGY *Lord of the Dance*
They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *Refrain*

Refrain *Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said He.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said He.*

HOLY COMMUNION

*INVITATION

Luke the evangelist wrote of our risen Savior, who at the table with two of the disciples took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

ALL: **Together, we are blessed by being here.**

*COMMUNION PRAYER

by Rev. Bosco Peters (www.liturgy.co.nz)

The Lord is risen!

We have seen the Lord!

Lift up your hearts, people of God.

We lift them to the Risen Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

We offer our thanks and praise to the One who gives us new life.

It is our duty and our joy to give you thanks and praise, O God, creator and sustainer of the universe. We give you thanks for sun and sea and sky, for birds singing and buds on trees, for the moon and stars at night, and planets in their courses. All you make is very good.

For the universe we praise you,

we worship and adore you.

We give you thanks for our creation and our calling, for friendship and community, for love and laughter, tears and pain of growth.

For your gift of life we praise you,

we worship and adore you.

We give you thanks with those who went before us, with saints and martyrs, evangelists and prophets. With all who stand before you in earth and heaven, from every culture, land and tongue, we praise you, giving voice to every creature, as we join the never ending hymn:

*SANCTUS (singing):

Nicaea

Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea!

Holy! Holy! Holy! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is Christ who comes to set us free.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Blessed are you, most Holy, in Jesus Christ, You came among us as a servant and a friend, to reconcile us to Yourself. We thank You for that life of love, the good news of Your reign, and the promise of a banquet where all Your children shall be free.

For Your gift of Christ we praise You,

we worship and adore You.

To You indeed be glory, almighty God,

... For new life in Christ we praise you

we worship and adore you.

... For the peace of Christ we praise you

we worship and adore you.

Through Christ our Redeemer,

in the power of the Spirit,

we worship you, O God,

in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honor and glory be Yours,
here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.**

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD & THE CUP

All those wishing to know the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ are welcome at His table. We receive the bread and the cup together in the sanctuary or across the miles. The distance we keep for the health and safety of each other is dissolved in the unity given by our Lord. Please wait until all have been served, and we will receive the elements together.

*PRAYER after COMMUNION

Lord, we bless and praise you for nourishing us with this Easter feast of redemption. Fill us with your Spirit, and make us living signs of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN

Thine is the Glory

*BENEDICTION

written by Rita R. Snowden

Hang out your hallelujahs!

The tomb is open, the Roman guard gone, death defeated!

The man of Life walks again, comforting the troubled, healing the sick, forgiving sinners, spreading his Gospel through the lips and lives of those made new.

Christ is risen!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen, indeed!

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

by Jacques Lemmens

Thank you to our Worship Leaders

Organist	Carter Horman
Acolytes, Liturgists, PowerPoint, Videographer, Ushers:	Senior Youth Fellowship
Council Ushers	Aaron Horman & David Niermeyer
Ministers	All believers
Pastor	Rev. Susan Schneider-Adams

Music & Scriptures for Easter Sunday

*HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

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!

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!

(Vs. 4) 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!

*CLOSING HYMN

Thine is the Glory

Words: Edmond Budry/ trans. Richard Hoyle

Thine is 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.

Refrain: Thine is 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;
let His Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
for the Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. Refrain

Acts 10:34-43

New Living Translation

Then Peter replied, "I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism. In every nation God accepts those who fear God and do what is right. This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism.

And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

"And we apostles are witnesses of all He did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross, but God raised Him to life on the third day.

Then God allowed Him to appear, not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be His witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with Him after Jesus rose from the dead. And He ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead. He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in Him will have their sins forgiven through His name."

John 20: 1-18

Contemporary English Version

On Sunday morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran to Simon Peter and to Jesus' favorite disciple and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb! We don't know where they have put him."

Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. They ran side by side, until the other disciple ran faster than Peter and got there first. He bent over and saw the strips of linen cloth lying inside the tomb, but he did not go in.

When Simon Peter got there, he went into the tomb and saw the strips of cloth. He also saw the piece of cloth that had been used to cover Jesus' face. It was rolled up and in a place by itself. The disciple who got there first then went into the tomb, and when he saw it, he believed. At that time Peter and the other disciple did not know that the Scriptures said Jesus would rise to life. So the two of them went back to the other disciples.

Mary Magdalene stood crying outside the tomb. She was still weeping, when she stooped down and saw two angels inside. They were dressed in white and were sitting where Jesus' body had been. One was at the head and the other was at the foot. The angels asked Mary, "Why are you crying?"

She answered, "They have taken away my Lord's body! I don't know where they have put him."

As soon as Mary said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. But she did not know who he was. Jesus asked her, "Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener and said, "Sir, if you have taken his body away, please tell me, so I can go and get him."

Then Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to him, "*Rabboni.*" (The Aramaic word "*Rabboni*" means "*Teacher.*")

Jesus told her, "Don't hold on to me! I have not yet gone to the Father. But tell my disciples that I am going to the one who is my Father and my God, as well as your Father and your God." Mary Magdalene then went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord. She also told them what he had said to her.