



March 31, 2024
Sunday Gathering
Easter Sunday

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-SPECIAL MUSIC-

"He Lives/Christ the Lord is Risen"
BUCC Ensemble

-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

We acknowledge that the place where we are gathered today is the ancient and ancestral homeland of more than twenty Indigenous tribes. We mourn the loss of their lives, livelihoods, homes, and cultures, and acknowledge the legacy of violence against them.

We acknowledge that the space where we worship today was established and built by those whose Black ancestors were also abused and mistreated - some even bought and sold as enslaved people right here in our city.

We acknowledge the women who've faced unfair treatment and misogyny throughout the ages and we acknowledge those who identify as LGBTQ or other who've been mistreated and misunderstood.

We acknowledge our role and responsibility as professed followers of Christ to stand for and alongside all of these and others who have been and continue to be oppressed.

-PRELUDE-

"Sing the Glad Song" - F. Ritter
Brenda Gardiner

-WELCOME-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"You Raise Me Up"

YOU RAISE ME UP SO I CAN STAND ON MOUNTAINS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO WALK ON STORMY SEAS.
I AM STRONG WHEN I AM ON YOUR SHOULDERS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO MORE THAN I CAN BE.

WHEN I AM DOWN AND, OH MY SOUL, SO WEARY.
WHEN TROUBLES COME AND MY HEART, BURDENED BE.

THEN, I AM STILL AND WAIT HERE IN THE SILENCE,
UNTIL YOU COME AND SIT AWHILE WITH ME.

YOU RAISE ME UP SO I CAN STAND ON MOUNTAINS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO WALK ON STORMY SEAS.
I AM STRONG WHEN I AM ON YOUR SHOULDERS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO MORE THAN I CAN BE.

-OPENING PRAYER-

EVER-LIVING GOD,
WE COME WITH OUR HEADS BENT DOWN SOMETIMES,
OVERWHELMED WITH GOOD FRIDAY NEWS.
RAISE US UP, LIFT UP OUR EYES,
SO THAT WE MIGHT LOOK UP AND SEE
THE TENACITY OF LIFE IN THE MIDST OF DEATH.

-OPENING DEVOTIONAL-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"You Raise Me Up"

YOU RAISE ME UP SO I CAN STAND ON MOUNTAINS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO WALK ON STORMY SEAS.
I AM STRONG WHEN I AM ON YOUR SHOULDERS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO MORE THAN I CAN BE.

-GREETING EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Christ Arose"

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH O'ER HIS FOES;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH FROM THE DARK DOMAIN,
AND HE LIVES FOREVER, WITH HIS SAINTS TO REIGN.

HE AROSE! HE AROSE!
HALLELUJAH! CHRIST AROSE!

LOW IN THE GRAVE HE LAY,
JESUS MY SAVIOR,
WAITING THE COMING DAY,
JESUS MY LORD.

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH O'ER HIS FOES;

WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH 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 SAVIOR,
VAINLY THEY SEAL THE DEAD,
JESUS MY LORD.

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH O'ER HIS FOES;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH FROM THE DARK DOMAIN,
AND HE LIVES FOREVER, WITH HIS SAINTS TO REIGN.

HE AROSE! HE AROSE!
HALLELUJAH! CHRIST AROSE!

DEATH CANNOT KEEP ITS PREY,
JESUS MY SAVIOR,
HE TORE THE BARS AWAY,
JESUS MY LORD.

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH O'ER HIS FOES;
WITH A MIGHTY TRIUMPH FROM THE DARK DOMAIN,
AND HE LIVES FOREVER, WITH HIS SAINTS TO REIGN.

HE AROSE! HE AROSE!
HALLELUJAH! CHRIST AROSE!

-SCRIPTURE-

Mark 16: 1-7 NRSV

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

-THE MESSAGE-

"Look Up!"

Kenny Bishop

-SPECIAL MUSIC-

"Then Came the Morning"

Kenny Bishop & Timmy Smallwood

-COMMUNION-

"Open the Eyes of My Heart" - arr. P. Keveren

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-PASTORAL PRAYER-

-OFFERING-

"O Worship the King" - arr. P. Keveren

-IN GRATITUDE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Because He Lives"

GOD SENT THE SON, THEY CALLED HIM, JESUS;
HE CAME TO LOVE, HEAL AND FORGIVE;
HE LIVED AND DIED TO BUY MY PARDON,
AN EMPTY GRAVE IS THERE TO PROVE MY SAVIOR LIVES!

BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW,
BECAUSE HE LIVES, ALL FEAR IS GONE;
BECAUSE I KNOW HE HOLDS THE FUTURE,
AND LIFE IS WORTH THE LIVING,
JUST BECAUSE HE LIVES.

HOW SWEET TO HOLD A NEWBORN BABY,
AND FEEL THE PRIDE AND JOY IT BRINGS;
BUT GREATER STILL THE CALM ASSURANCE:
THIS CHILD CAN FACE UNCERTAIN DAYS BECAUSE HE LIVES!

BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW,
BECAUSE HE LIVES, ALL FEAR IS GONE;
BECAUSE I KNOW HE HOLDS THE FUTURE,
AND LIFE IS WORTH THE LIVING,
JUST BECAUSE HE LIVES.

AND THEN ONE DAY, I'LL CROSS THE RIVER,
I'LL FIGHT LIFE'S FINAL WAR WITH PAIN;
AND THEN, AS DEATH GIVES WAY TO VICTORY,
I'LL SEE THE LIGHTS OF GLORY AND I'LL KNOW HE LIVES!

BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW,
BECAUSE HE LIVES, ALL FEAR IS GONE;
BECAUSE I KNOW HE HOLDS THE FUTURE,
AND LIFE IS WORTH THE LIVING,
JUST BECAUSE HE LIVES.

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Because He Lives"

BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW,
BECAUSE HE LIVES, ALL FEAR IS GONE;
BECAUSE I KNOW HE HOLDS THE FUTURE,
AND LIFE IS WORTH THE LIVING,
JUST BECAUSE HE LIVES.

-POSTLUDE-

"Crown Him With Many Crowns" - arr. P. Keveren
Brenda Gardiner