



The Resurrection of Our Lord

Jesus Is Risen! Bodily!

Easter Sunrise Service

April 9, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Ever since Pontius Pilate worried that someone would steal the body of the crucified Jesus and claim that He had risen for the dead, many have doubted and called the resurrection a lie. But Jesus is risen bodily from the dead. Today, the Holy Church throughout the world boldly testifies to the fact that Christ is risen. Still, this fact remains an article of faith. Such faith is not a result of mere imagination, however, but is the very creation of God the Holy Spirit by the mighty Word of God handed down to us by the testimony of many witnesses. The resurrection is the fact of God's love. He really is risen! Alleluia!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;

People: **I have no good apart from You."**

Pastor: I have set the LORD always before me;

People: **because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

Pastor: You make known to me the path of life;

People: **in Your presence there is fullness of joy.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" #457

1. **Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**
2. **Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**
3. **But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**
4. **Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!**

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **(Sing) Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory?”
People: **O death, where is your sting?”**

Pastor: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
People: **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, let us confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **I confess to You, most merciful God, that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, words and deeds, those that I have done as well as the good I have failed to do. It is my own sin that condemns me. In Your mercy and according to Your promise, forgive me my sin, create a new heart in me, restore to me the joy of Your salvation for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Lord and my God. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **(Sing) Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

#475 vs. 1,2,4

**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is ris’n this day; Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way; Let
all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord The life
laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

✠ Word ✠

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord’s resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People (sing) **A-men.**

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him

on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:1-4

3 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your^[a] life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him. See, I have told you.” ⁸ So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell His disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of His feet and

worshiped Him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell My brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*” #461, vs 1-4,8

1. I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.
2. He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.
3. He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
4. He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's complaint.
8. He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives; I know that my Redeemer lives!

SERMON

The “Empty” Promises of Easter

Matthew 28:1-10

Rev Gordon W. Bruce

OFFERTORY *(please rise)*

“Create in Me”

#956

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit
from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with
Thy free spirit. Amen.*

THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” #463 vs 4

*Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay;
Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris’n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to
die. Alleluia!*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Vicar: Petitions heard (*ending with...*) Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **(Sing) And with your Spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **(Sing) We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **(Sing) It is good and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and
in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father,
everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise
You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus
Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and
bore the sins of the world. By His dying He was destroyed death,
and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

LORD’S PRAYER (*found inside back cover of hymnal*)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People (sing) A-men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

#155

***Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (*Refrain*)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory

are His. *(Refrain)*

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever.**

Amen. *(Refrain)*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. *(Refrain)*

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” #633

1. **At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His piercèd side.
Alleluia!**
2. **Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His Body for the feast-- Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!**
3. **Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the
sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!**
4. **Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal
bread;
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!**
5. **Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!**
6. **Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!**

7. **Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!**
8. **Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we
praise.
Alleluia!**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” #477

1. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise; Sing to God a
hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise: He who on the cross a
victim for the world's salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now
is risen from the dead.**
- 2 **Alleluia! Christ is risen, Death at last has met defeat: See the ancient
of e-vil In confession and re-treat; Once he died, and once was bur-ied:
Now he lives for-ever-er-more, Jesus Christ the world's Re-deem-er, When
we worship and adore.**
3. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia to the Savior,
Who has won the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and
sanctity. Alleluia! Alleluia To the Triune Majesty**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us
a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's
body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our
pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may together with all
Your saints celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His
kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
People: **(sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven” #477

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise: Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise; He who on the cross a victim For the world’s salvation bled- Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat: See the ancient pow’rs of evil In confusion and retreat; Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore, Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high: Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctify! Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!

SILENT PRAYER



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*Please visit us on our website to learn more about our church,
thank you for joining us today. Have a blessed Easter!*

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