

# *THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER*

*Reformed Church in America*

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*Good morning, and welcome to Church of the Master, where we proclaim  
Jesus' death and resurrection for the salvation of the world.  
Blessings to you as you celebrate with us today.*

## *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*May 4, 2025*

*11:00 AM*

### *Silent Preparation for Worship*

*"What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?*

*I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people" (Psalm 116:12-14).*

*May our worship please you, God.*

### *Welcome*

*\* Hymn of Praise #227 - "At the Cross"*

*\* Call to Worship: (responsively)*

God has burst the bonds of sorrow. Life has crushed the most horrible death.

**OUR HEARTS SWELL WITH CRIES OF GLADNESS; OUR SILENT TONGUES REJOICE!!**

The faithful of God are lifted up; the faithful of God are risen!

**OUR SPIRITS DWELL IN HEAVEN'S HOPE! OUR GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US!**

The children of God are Christ's sisters and brothers; you have witnessed the glory of God!

**GOD HAS REVEALED TO US THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE! SING, GLAD HEARTS,**

**BEFORE GLORY'S THRONE! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN**

*\* Prayer of Praise and Adoration*

*\* Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed (#622 in hymnal), page 5 on this PDF*

## *Call to Confession*

GOD OF PEACE, GOD OF GLORY, YOUR GENTLE MIGHT AMAZES US. WHEN YOU HAVE MOST REASON TO SCORN US, YOU ACCEPT US. WHEN YOU HAVE GREATEST REASON TO SPITE US, YOU FORGIVE US. WHEN YOU HAVE INFINITE REASON TO FORGET US, YOU REMEMBER US. AND YOU REMEMBER US WITH SUCH COMPASSION. WHEN WE HAVE LOCKED OURSELVES AWAY IN THE UPPER ROOMS OF OUR LIVES, YOU HAVE SENT YOUR PRESENCE INTO OUR MIDST WITH A WORD OF PEACE. NOT BLAME, NOT ACCUSATION, NOT CONDEMNATION, BUT PEACE. YOU SEND US PEACE SO THAT YOU CAN SEND US OUT FROM OUR HIDING PLACES WITH STRENGTH AND POWER. GOD OF PEACE, GOD OF GLORY, COMFORT US IN OUR DOUBTING AND STRENGTHEN US IN OUR BELIEVING. FORGIVE US OF OUR SIN. HELP US LAY ALL OF OUR LIVES AT YOUR FEET, ALL OF OUR DOUBTS, ALL OF OUR SINS, ALL OF OUR WEAKNESS. TRANSFORM US, MAKE OUR LIVES NEW, AND DESPITE OUR FEAR AND TREMBLING, WE KNOW THAT WHEREVER WE SHALL GO, YOU SHALL GO BEFORE US. AMEN.

## *Announcements*

\* *Hymn of Preparation #393 - "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

*Easter Theme: "Resurrection Hope!"*

*Scripture: Psalm 30:1-12 (vv. 1-3,4-6,8-10,11-12)*

*John 20:19-31 (vv.19-21,22-24,25-27,28-31)*

*Sermon- "The Resurrection Hope of Easter Enables Us to Know Jesus in the Power of His Resurrection and in the Fellowship of His Sufferings!"*

\* *Doxology (#39)*

\* *Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings*

\* *Prayer*

*Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion*

*Lord's Prayer*

\* *Closing Hymn #276 - "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power"*

\* *Choral Benediction: "Shalom to You" (congregation)*

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

\* *Benediction (Pastor)*

\* Please stand if able

## *Church of the Master Ministries*

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 AM	<b>Worship Service</b> (Holy Communion celebrated on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)
<b>Monday</b>	5:00-9:00 PM	Bushiken Karate
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 PM	<b>Online Bible study:</b> Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	5:00-9:00PM	Bushiken Karate
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 PM	Women's Alcoholic Anonymous
<b>Friday</b>	7:00 PM	<b>"Hour of Prayer Power"</b> virtual meeting
		The conference call-in number is 605-475-4860, code - 371231#
<b>Saturday</b>	12:00 noon	<b>Online Bible study:</b> Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	9:30AM-1:00PM	Bushiken Karate

## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

“Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer”

### The Prayer List

Our prayers reflect a wonderful and whole-hearted commitment to intercessory prayer by this congregation. Each name will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Those with Special Needs:

Diane \* Elena Caldera \* Anne Dowling \* Jerry Kemps \* Jane Maze \* Donald Zuvich

Prayers for Those Who Are Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Kevin Martz \* Nicky \* Tommy \* Cynthia \* Janet (friend of Mahon family) \* Beverly Morrison \* Robert Solimando \* John T \* Michael Campinello \* Michele \* Anthony \* Patti Zeig & John \* Stephanie \* Rev. Singletary \* Connie \* Pat Lynam \* Carole Mahon \* Loretta Byrd & Wendy \* Diante \* Damon George Hayden \* Allen Ford \* Alice & Alex Rivera \* Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers \* Rosa Stewart

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Rosetta Grasso \* Washington family \* Cheryl & family \* Jay Escobar & family \* Close friends of the Bungerts \* Sharon Alexander \* Damon & Alex and family \* Wintress \* Byrd family \* Kiera & Avery & Martz family \* Tyler, Nicole & Jackson \* All caregivers \* everyone battling addictions

Prayers For Those Seeking Direction/Needing God's Presence in Their Lives:

Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa \* Devell \* Zachariah Bungert \* Diante Stinson \* Corey Streeter \* young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Prayers for World Concerns:

Concerns for job security for Federal workers \* An end to the war between Russia & Ukraine and the Middle East conflict \* An end to all the violence \* Peace and healing in our community and the nation \* COVID patients, families & all healthcare workers \* All first responders \* Our country's safety \* The future of our churches \* The President and his administration \* Pastor Sohail Latif and his congregation in Pakistan \* Worldwide conflicts \* Sean Buckley & Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families

Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

Cody Halloway

### **PRAYERS FOR THE GROWTH OF CHURCH OF THE MASTER:**

**Lord, please send people through our doors with whom we can share the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CHURCH OF THE MASTER MISSION STATEMENT**

*We are a Christ-centered community church united in prayer and loving Christian fellowship, Bible teaching and preaching Christ crucified, risen and coming again.*

# 227 — At the Cross

ISAAC WATTS

Chorus—Ralph E. Hudson

RALPH E. HUDSON

1. A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed? And did my Sov - 'reign die?  
 2. Was it for crimes that I have done He groaned up - on the tree?  
 3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And shut his glo - ries in,  
 4. But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The debt of love I owe:

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
 A - maz - ing pit - y! grace un-known! And love be - yond de - gree!  
 When Christ, the might - y Mak - er, died For man the crea - ture's sin.  
 Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way—'Tis all that I can do!

## CHORUS

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light And the

bur - den of my heart rolled a - way— It was there by faith

I re - ceived my sight, And now I am hap - py all the day!

CHRIST: HIS PASSION

# The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

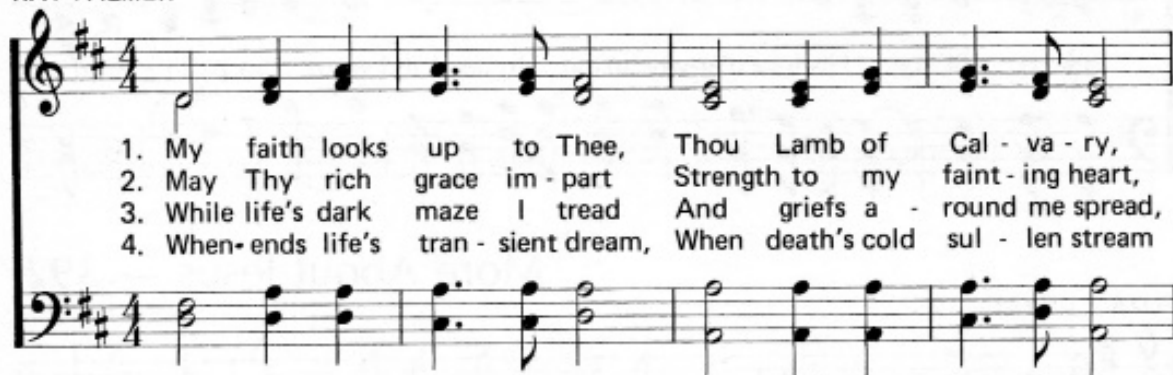
**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

# 393 — My Faith Looks Up to Thee

RAY PALMER

LOWELL MASON



1. My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2. May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,  
 3. While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,  
 4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine; Now hear me when I pray, Take all my  
 My zeal in - spire; As Thou hast died for me, O may my  
 Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's  
 Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



sin a - way, O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!  
 love to Thee Pure, warm and change-less be— A liv - ing fire!  
 tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.  
 trust re-move— O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul.\*

Tune: OLIVET

## **Psalm 30: 1-12 (vv. 1-3, 4-6, 8-10, and 11-12)**

## **John 20: 19-31 (vv. 19-21, 22-24, 25-27, 28-31)**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

<sup>2</sup> O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

<sup>3</sup> O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

<sup>5</sup> For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

<sup>6</sup> As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

<sup>7</sup> By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

<sup>8</sup> To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:

<sup>9</sup> "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

<sup>10</sup> Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

<sup>11</sup> You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

<sup>12</sup> so that my soul<sup>[b]</sup> may praise you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

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When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained. <sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin<sup>[a]</sup>), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe<sup>[b]</sup> that Jesus is the Messiah,<sup>[c]</sup> the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Meaning of the Sacrament,  
The Invitation  
Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you

**AND ALSO WITH YOU**

Lift up your hearts!

**WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**FOR IT IS HOLY AND RIGHT TO DO SO**

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD OF HOSTS! HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST! BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!**

(A short period of silence and the prayer continues)

### Sharing the Bread & Sharing the Cup

#### Thanksgiving after Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

**AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS GOD'S HOLY NAME**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

**AND FORGET NOT ALL GOD'S BENEFITS**

who forgives all your iniquity,

**WHO HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES**

who redeems your life from the Pit,

**WHO CROWNS YOU WITH STEADFAST LOVE AND MERCY**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

**SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE**

God does not deal with us according to our sins,

**NOR REQUITE US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES**

for as the heavens are high above the earth,

**SO GREAT IS GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM**

as far as the east is from the west,

**SO FAR DOES GOD REMOVE OUR**

**TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US**

as a father pities his children,

**SO THE LORD PITIES THOSE WHO FEAR HIM**

God did not spare His only son, but gave him up for us all,

and will also give us all things with Him.

**THEREFORE SHALL MY MOUTH AND HEART SHOW FORTH THE PRAISE OF THE LORD, FROM THIS TIME FORTH FOREVERMORE. AMEN.**



# 276 — The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power

ANDRAÉ CROUCH

ANDRAÉ CROUCH

1. The blood that Je - sus shed for me,  
2. It soothes my doubts and calms my fears,

Way back on Cal - va - ry— The blood that gives me strength from  
And it dries all my tears; The blood that gives me strength from

day to day— It will nev - er lose its pow'r.  
day to day— It will nev - er lose its pow'r.

**REFRAIN**

It reach-es to the high - est moun - tain, It flows to the

low - est val - ley; The blood that gives me strength from

day to day— It will nev - er lose its pow'r.