

Christ on Trial
 A Series of Services for
 Lent, Holy Week and Easter
 Grace in the Desert
 Easter Sunday:
 Mary Magdalene Returns

March 31, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Song "Redeemer"

Invocation

Come to Order

P Pilate said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

C By a perversion of justice he was taken away. He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities.

P Then Pilate summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews? What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world."

C By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

P Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But Jesus gave him no answer, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

C Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

P The high priest said to him, "Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death."

C By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. Out of his anguish he shall see light. The righteous one, my

servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Children's Message

Response Song	"Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)"
First Reading	Isaiah 25:6-9
Second Reading	Acts 10:34-43
Gospel Reading	John 20:1-18
Message Song	"Christ is Risen"
Message	"Christ on Trial: Mary Magdalene Returns"
C He is risen indeed!!!	
Confession of Faith	"We Believe"

Prayers are spoken by the pastor:

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, on this Easter Day, we praise you that the verdict is in. Your resurrection proves that you truly are the Son of God, the Lord of our Life and the Savior of all people. Let our praise of you resound in the courts of our human hearts, within the walls of this church, in the halls of our homes, and throughout the world.

Lord, by rising from the dead, you have wiped away our record of wrongs and removed the death sentence that hung over our heads. Newly reformed, let us live lives of forgiveness and love that are focused on you and your will for our lives.

Lord, like Mary Magdalene, our tears of sadness from Good Friday have turned to tears of joy on Easter. Let our joy in the fact that you have risen from the dead spill out from us as we go about our day-to-day activities with renewed purpose, and as we interact with one another with a spirit of gladness in your goodness.

Lord, Mary Magdalene called you "Rabboni," which means "teacher." Keep teaching us what it means to follow you as our Living Lord, and let us learn from you how to always be energetic and enthusiastic witnesses for you every day of our lives.

Lord, by your resurrection, you have established an eternal relationship with us. Help us day by day to cultivate that relationship with you through prayer and devotion and worship, and allow us to grow ever closer to you until the day when you

call us by name to dwell in your glory forevermore.

Into your hands we commend all about which we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P In the presence of the living God,

C we confess that we set our minds towards things of death, and not on the life that is revealed in the Christ. In our fear and trembling we quickly turn from you towards ourselves. Our fear leads us to doubt your promise, harm our neighbor, and neglect your creation. Resurrect us O' God, and bring about the new life in ourselves, in our community, and our world. Through the mercy of you beloved Son, heal us from our sin, and give us the new breath of your Spirit. Amen (retrieved from <https://liturgicallylutheran.wordpress.com/2014/04/09/confession-absolution-for-easter-a/>)

P Absolution

Communion

Prayer/Consecration of Elements

Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

Offering Prayer

Benediction

P In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

C We testify to the truth of Christ in court: in the chambers of our human hearts.

P So I say to you: Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you. And may the peace of Christ bless and keep you as you live your life as a testimony to him.

C Amen.

Sending Song

“Reckless Love”

Sending Out