

Welcome The Lord Be with You... Rev. Mark Rambo

Prelude Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Setting the Table

Visual Call-to-Worship O Radiant Light The Work of the People

Hymn Rejoice the Lord is King #282

Rejoice the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love,

When He had purged our stains He took his seat above

Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven

The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n:

Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come,

And take his servants up to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart, life up your voice! Rejoice again I say, rejoice!

Responsive Reading

Leader: Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

People: Break forth into joy! Sing together! God comforts those whose hearts are broken in sorrow

Leader: We who once suffered in death, we who once cried in despair -

People: Now we know victory over death! - Now we know joy over despair!

All: For God has raised Christ from the grave! The tomb is empty and death has been defeated for all the earth!

Hymn *He Lives* #285, v 1&3

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today; I know that He is living, whatever they may say; I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, and just the time I need Him He's always near.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives...within my heart.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing Eternal hallelujah to Jesus Christ the King The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find, None other is so loving, so good and kind He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives...within my heart

Prayer

God of Resurrection, we long to discover your presence, we long to feel the rhythm of your love, we stumble toward the tombs in our lives and long to find them empty. Bring Easter to our hearts, to our eyes and ears, to our lives, this morning. In the name of Christ, whose life and love could not be stamped out, whose resurrection hope is the hope which plants love and laughter in our lives, and lures them to sprout, bloom and blossom like spring flowers in the morning sun, we say, Amen!

COMING TO THE TABLE

The Written Word 1 John 1: 1 - 2:2 The Message

From the very first day, we were there, taking it all in-we heard it with our own ears, saw it with our own eyes, verified it with our own hands. The Word of Life appeared right before our eyes; we saw it happen! And now we're telling you in most sober prose that what we witnessed was, incredibly, this: The infinite Life of God himself took shape before us. We saw it, we heard it, and now we're telling you so you can experience it along with us, this experience of communion with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ. Our motive for writing is simply this: We want you to enjoy this, too. Your joy will double our joy! This, in essence, is the message we heard from Christ and are passing on to you: God is light, pure light; there's not a trace of darkness in him. If we claim that we experience a shared life with him and continue to stumble around in the dark, we're obviously lying through our teeth – we're not living what we claim. But if we walk in the light, God himself being the light, we also experience a shared life with one another, as the sacrificed blood of Jesus, God's Son, purges all our sin. If we claim that we're free of sin, we're only fooling ourselves. A claim like that is errant nonsense. On the other hand, if we admit our sins - simply come clean about them - he won't let us down; he'll be true to himself. He'll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing. If we claim that we've never sinned, we out-and-out contradict God – make a liar out of him. A claim like that only shows off our ignorance of God. I write this, dear children, to guide you out of sin. But if anyone does sin, we have a Priest-Friend in the presence of the Father: Jesus Christ, righteous Jesus. When he served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for good–not only ours, but the whole world's.

INVITATION

Song Walk Together Children Darrell Born

Oh, walk together children, don't you get weary; walk together children, don't you get weary; Walk together children, don't you get weary, there's a great camp meeting in the promised lan' Oh, walk together children, don't you get weary; walk together children, don't you get weary; Walk together children, don't you get weary, there's a great camp meeting in the promised lan' Gonna walk and never tire, oh walk and never tire,

there's a great camp meeting in the promised lan'.

Oh, gonna sing and never tire, oh sing and never tire, oh sing and never tire, there's a great camp meeting in the promised lan'.

Gonna shout and never tire, oh shout and never tire, oh shout and never tire,

there's a great camp meeting in the promised lan'.

Oh walk together children, don't you get weary, sing together children, don't you get weary,

Shout together children, don't you get weary, there's a great camp meeting, great camp meeting, in the promised, promised lan'.

Prayer of Confession

God of all worlds and all time, we gather voicing thanks for this season of resurrection. May our worship be as an Easter tide. Wash over us and seep into us to refresh and cleanse. Dissolve the prejudices that cling to us like barnacle, the jealousies that lodge in the crevices of memory. Move toward us with power and might when we are rock-rigid in our views and when we are unforgiving as granite. Let us hear the thunderous sound of good news as it breaks upon our hardness of heart. And bid us, God, to dare to journey upon the sea of the Spirit. May the waves of Easter tide buoy us up and beckon us to the adventure of resurrection living. Amen

Communion Bread + Cup

Remembering his life, teachings and especially now his costly choice of the way of the cross, the way of true love, we offer to you these your gifts of bread and cup, praying that you will hallow/bless both them and us by the presence of your Spirit; that the bread we break may be the bread of his broken life, and the cup we bless and share the cup of his sacrifice. And so we pray with confidence for the coming of your reign

Words of Assurance

For all who have come believing in Christ as the Way, there is rest from your fruitless labors, forgiveness of your sins, and the guarantee of eternal life. Let us then continue our journey of faith, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Song In Moments Like These #97

In moments like these I sing out a song, I sing out a love song to Jesus. In moments like these I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice to the Lord, singing: I love you, Lord, singing I love you, Lord, I love you.

ENTERING GOD'S STORY

The Written Word John 20: 19 - 31 NSRV

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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." 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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 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."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Spoken WordGetting Your Hands Dirty
Rev. Mark Rambo

RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

Slideshow of Eastertide Hallelujah is Our Song

Mission & Ministry

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below Praise God for all that Love has done Creator, Christ and Spirit, One!

Prayers of the People

God of the multitude,

We praise you for being a God who contains a diversity of personhood in one. In your very being, you possess a sacred community where each part is distinct and beautiful and necessary. Make our community like you, that we would no longer be content with the bland flavor of sameness. That we would no longer use language of unity and oneness as a veil for the oppression of voice, body, and culture. Be near to those who have offered up the particularity of their stories to bring about restoration, only to be met with accusations of divisiveness. Lord, let out distinct beauty be held as a sacred and necessary contribution to the beauty of the cosmos. Lead us into spaces that see and honor that we are not the same. And it is very good.

God of the Risen Christ.

You love us so much as to raise Christ from the tomb. In you we find only life and grace. You grant us peace in Christ. You give us forgiveness of sin. You welcome us back – without revenge – when we have been faithless. Bring us your peace and lead us to forgive others. Carry us through our times of disbelief. May we believe that Jesus is the Christ! In that belief may we have life in Christ's name! In the name of the Risen One, we pray. Amen

Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story, of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do. I love to tell the story, 'Twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best; seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,

'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

I love to tell the story, 'Twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction

Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently