



The Resurrection of Our Lord

Jesus Is Risen! Bodily!

Pax Worship 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 ✧

OPENING SONG

"What A Beautiful Name"

Verse You were the Word at the beginning, One with God, the Lord most high. You hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You our Christ.

Chorus What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus Christ, my king. What a beautiful name it is. Nothing compares to this. What a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus.

Verse You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, You brought heaven down. My sin was great, Your love was greater. What could separate us now?

Chorus What a wonderful name it is, what a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus Christ, my king. What a wonderful name it is. Nothing compares to this. What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus.

Bridge Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You. You silenced the boast of sin and grave. The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory. For You are raised to life again.
 You have no rival, You have no equal. Now and forever, God, You reign. Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory. Yours is the Name above all names.

Chorus What a powerful name it is, what a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus Christ, my king. What a powerful name it is. Nothing can stand against. What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus. What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.

SONG

"House of The Lord"

Verse: We worship the God who was, we worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be. He opened the prison
doors, He parted the raging sea. Our God, He holds the
victory.

Chorus: There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house
of the Lord today, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your
praise!

this There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God is surely in
place, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise!

Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh oh.

Verse: We sing to the God who heals, we sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way. 'Cause He hung
upon that cross, then He rose up from that grave. My God's still
rolling stones away.

Chorus: There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house
of the Lord today, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your
praise!

this There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God us surely in
place, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise!

Bridge: We were the beggars, now we're royalty. We were the
pris'ners, now we're running free. We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by His grace. Let the house of the Lord sing praise!
'Cause we were the beggars now we're royalty. We were the
pris'ners, now we're running free. We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by His grace. Let the house of the Lord sing
praise!

Chorus: There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house
of the Lord today, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your
praise!

this There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God is surely in
place, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise!

of
praise! **There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house
the Lord today, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your**

this
Oh, **There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God is surely in
place, and we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise!
Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh oh.
Oh, oh. Oh, oh oh. Oh, oh, Mmm, mmm.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy
Spirit.

People: **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: Amen.

✠ **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 Amen.

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.

"Because He Lives (Amen)"

Verse: I believe in the Son; I believe in the Risen One; I believe I overcome by the power of His blood;

**Chorus: Amen, Amen, I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives;
Amen, Amen, let my song join the one that never ends
because He lives.**

Verse: I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame. I heard mercy call my name, He rolled the stone away!

**Chorus: Amen, Amen, I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives;
Amen, Amen, let my song join the one that never ends.**

Bridge: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow; Because He lives every fear is gone; I know He holds my life, my future in His hands.

**Chorus: Amen, Amen, let my song join the one that never ends.
Amen, Amen, I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives;
Amen, Amen, let my song join the one that never ends
because He lives; Because He lives.**

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY

"CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY" (HE IS NOT DEAD)

Verse 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today, a- le luia
Sons of men and angels say, a- le luia
Raise your joys and triumphs high, a- le luia
Sing ye heavens and earth reply, a- le luia

Verse 2 Lives again our glorious King, a- le luia
Where O death is now thy sting, a- le luia
Dying once He all doth save, a- le luia
Where thy victory O grave, a- le luia

Chorus **He is not dead, He is alive**
We have this hope, in Jesus Christ

Verse 3 **Love's redeeming work is done, a- le luia**
Fought the fight the battle won, a- le luia
Death in vain forbids Him rise, a- le luia
Christ has opened paradise, a- le luia (chorus)

Verse 4 **Soar we now where Christ has led, a- le luia**
Following our exalted Head, a- le luia
Made like Him, like Him we rise, a- le luia
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, a- le luia (chorus 2X)

SERMON *The "Empty" Promises of Easter* *Matthew 28:1-10*
Rev Gordon W. Bruce

THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

✠ **SACRAMENT** ✠

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."

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

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"O Come To The Altar"

Verse: Are you hurting and broken within? Overwhelmed by the
weigh of your sin? Jesus is calling. Have you come to the end
of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is
calling.

Chorus: O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open
wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of
Jesus Christ.

Verse: Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today
there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling. Bring your
sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes, a new life is born.
Jesus is calling.

Chorus: O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open
wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of
Jesus Christ. O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus
Christ.

Bridge: Oh, what a Saviour, isn't He wonderful. Sing allelujah,
Christ is risen. Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of
all. Sing allelujah, Christ is risen. Oh, what a Saviour, isn't
He wonderful. Sing allelujah, Christ is risen. Bow down
before Him, for He is Lord of all. Sing allelujah, Christ is
risen.

"Hosanna"

Verse: I see the King of glory coming on the clouds with fire. The whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes. I see His love and mercy washing over all our sin. The people sing, the people sing

Chorus: Hosanna, hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Verse: I see a generation rising up to take their place with selfless faith, with selfless faith. I see a near revival stirring as we pray and seek. We're on our knees, we're on our knees.

Chorus: Hosanna, hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Bridge: Heal my heart and make it clean, open up my eyes to the things unseen. Show me how to love like You have loved me. Break my heart for what breaks Yours, everything I am, for Your Kingdom's cause. As I walk from earth into eternity.

Chorus: Hosanna, hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

“Only King Forever”

**Verse: Our God and firm foundation, our Rock, the only solid
 ground, the nations rise and fall. Kingdoms once strong, now
 shaken, we trust forever in Your name, the name of Jesus.
 We trust the name of Jesus.**

**Chorus: You are the only King forever. Almighty God, we lift You
 higher. You are the only King forever. Forevermore You are
 victorious. You are the only King forever. Almighty God, we lift You
 higher. You are the only King forever. Forevermore You are
 victorious.**

**Verse: Unmatched in all Your wisdom, in love and justice You will
 reign and every knee will bow. We bring our
 expectations. Our hope is anchored in Your name, the name
 of Jesus. Oh, we trust the name of Jesus.**

**Chorus: You are the only King forever. Almighty God, we lift You
 higher. You are the only King forever. Forevermore You
 are victorious. You are the only King forever. Almighty
 God, we lift You higher. You are the only King
 forever. Forevermore You are victorious.**

**Bridge: We lift our banner high. We lift the name of Jesus.
 From age to age You reign. Your kingdom has no end.
 We lift our banner high. We lift the name of Jesus.
 From age to age You reign. Your kingdom has no end.**

**Chorus: You are the only King forever. Almighty God, we lift You
 higher. You are the only King forever. Forevermore You are
 victorious. You are the only King forever. Almighty God, we**

**lift You higher. You are the only King forever. Forevermore
are victorious.**

You



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for joining us today. Have a blessed Easter!*

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