Jesus Christ is risen today.

ALLELUIA!

Easter Sunrise Service—April 4, 2021
Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day  
Sunrise Service of Holy Communion, Setting Four  
April 4, 2021—6:30 a.m.

The congregation gathers in silent meditation. You should receive a candle as you enter the Sanctuary. The darkness and quiet of the Sanctuary are symbolic of the discouragement in the hours before the discovery of the empty tomb.

Mark 16:1-8 is read as we begin the journey from darkness to light, and from death to life.

The service begins as the ministers come and stand among the people, bringing the paschal candle which is used to light everyone’s candles. This growing light of the burning candles signifies the early morning visit to the tomb and the joyous discovery that Christ is raised from the dead.

(lighting the paschal candle) May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

PRELUDE

The light from the Paschal Candle is shared among the worshipers. After everyone has received the light we begin the Litany for Easter Sunrise.

LITANY FOR EASTER SUNRISE
Creator of life, we give you praise and glory.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

You have raised him from the dead.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

You have made his cross a sign of glory
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

You have made us sharers in your life.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

With Christ, you have buried us in death to sin.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

He is seated with you in glory.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

He sends his spirit to guide our lives.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!

Jesus will come again in glory.
Christ is risen, Alleluia!
EASTER PROCLAMATION
Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; Death has no more dominion over him. Alleluia!

Let us sing to the Lord who has triumphed gloriously! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG
“Christ is Risen! Alleluia!” Hymn 382

EASTER GREETING
Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray.
O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING
[Acts 10:34-43]
Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is
the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. "All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Give thanks to the L ORD, for the L ORD is good; God’s mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”

The L ORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the L ORD acts valiantly!
The right hand of the L ORD is exalted!
The right hand of the L ORD acts valiantly!”

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the L ORD.

The L ORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the L ORD.

This is the gate of the L ORD; here the righteous may enter.

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the L ORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the L ORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM

“Woman, Weeping in the Garden” Pavlechko

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul’s preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of
whom are still alive, though some have died. 7Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Thine Is the Glory” (verses 1-2)  
Hymn 376

GOSPEL  
The holy gospel according to John.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

This morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10Then the disciples returned to their homes. 11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ ” 18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Thine Is the Glory” (verse 3)  
Hymn 376

SERMON  
Vicar Gayle Nelson
HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”
Hymn 377

CREED
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
…Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

ANTHEM
“Alleluia! Alleluia!” Peterson

OFFERTORY HYMN
“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” Hymn 885

HYMN (sing through once)
“Be Not Afraid” Hymn 388

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

HYMN (sing through once)
“Be Not Afraid” Hymn 388

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

HYMN (sing through once)
“Be Not Afraid” Hymn 388

LORD’S PRAYER
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
    hallowed be thy name,
    thy kingdom come,
    thy will be done,
    on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING
The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG
“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Hymn 365

DISMISSAL
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Altar Flowers. The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the glory of God by Patsy Gambrell in honor of Pete & Summer Insabella’s anniversary on April 11th and in memory of Berry Gambrell, a loving husband and father.

Processional Cross Flowers. The Processional Cross Flowers today are given to the glory of God by Tammy O’Quinn in honor of Bruce & Carol Busbee; Tina & Leah Conrad; Brennan, Emily & Heath Hutto; Susan Hyde; Mattie O’Quinn; and Brandon Pugh.

Bulletin Covers. The Bulletin Covers today are given to the glory of God in celebration of the Resurrection and in memory of Wayne Smith, Jane Eubanks and Penny Timmerman.
Lord Teach Us To Pray:
As God’s people called to love one another, let us pray for the following members of our church family, who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week: JoEllen Anderson, Rachel Bundrick, Leah Conrad, Cathy Crawford, Emma Lou Easley, Florence Evans, Ed Fuson, James Hook, Matthew Hook, Michael Hook, Sue Jones, Brittany Looby, Lib Manus, Vicki McFarland, Rick Myers, Tripp Owen, Nellie Phillips, Kristen Pittman, Harry Prim, Rosemary Roddy, Scott Shull, Keny Skenes, Boyd Steele, Kristen Stockton, Charlie Taylor, Taylor Wilson, Todd Wilson.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:
Melvin Manus.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:
Judith Gilmetti, Anne Moye, Linda Goodson, Isabelle Sundlie, Bill Hunnicutt.

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:
Adam Davis, Andrew Hamson, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, John Post.

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:
Marcus Hayes, Tristan Mullen, Cory Fabian, Hayden Henneman, Edwin Taylor, Patrick Taylor, Edwin Torres, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgen, Patrick Morris, Ben Barron, Barry Duncan, Michael Barfield, Adam Mintz, David Mathews, Bernd Koehler, John Ward.

The Family Of:
Penny Timmerman, Tripp Hatley, Jane Eubanks, Mike Shaffer, Christopher Holmes.

Please help us keep our prayer list up to date by calling the church office with any names to be added or removed. Otherwise, names remaining on the prayer list for more than 2 months will be removed.
The Palms are given to the Glory of God...
In honor of Anne Moye for her 95th birthday by Richie & Irelou Moye.

The Pots of Greenery are given to the Glory of God...
In memory of Harold & Emma Nelson by Gayle Nelson.
In memory of Cathy Sox by Chris & Kayla Sox.

The Easter Lilies are given to the Glory of God...
In memory of A.J. & Helen Culpepper by Laurie Culpepper.
In memory of Tally & Irene Roof by Laurie Culpepper.
In memory of Ira & Lois Shealy by Nancy S. Allen.
In memory of Linda Vallejo by Fred Vallejo.
In memory of Cathy Sox by Mary Sox.
In memory of Jean Titus by Lee & Joyce Riley.
In memory of Rudy & Becky Jones by Jeannie, Drewby & Becca McQuillen.
In memory of Freddie Fulmer by Shannon Lackey.
In memory of Jarvis & Arlene Klapman and Linda Vallejo by Tommy & Janet Smith.
In memory of Jarvis & Arlene Klapman, Horry & Nancy Wessinger, and Linda Vallejo by Randy & Elizabeth Klapman.
In memory of Mommy & Poppy by The Grands and The Great Grands.
In memory of Big Momma & Big Daddy by The Grands and The Great Grands.
In memory of Mammy & Grandy by Acy, Bob, Betsy, Rachel, Anna, Rebekah & Roxanne.
In memory of Robert “Bob” Wise by Gale McLeod.
In memory of Wayne Mattern by Sharon Mattern.
In memory of David Mattern by Sharon Mattern.
In memory of David Epting by Sharon Mattern.
In honor of Sarah & Danny by Sharon Mattern.
In honor of Julie Epting by Sharon Mattern.
In honor of Ed, Kim, Frazier, Cooper & Jensen Redmond and Eric & Natalie Smith by Tommy & Janet Smith.
In honor of Pops & Gigi by Little Joe, Barbara & Georgia.
In honor of Barbie & Ken by Little Joe, Barbara & Georgia.
In honor of our Contemporary Musicians by Gale McLeod.
In honor of Debra Morris with love by Court & Baker Morris.
In honor of Jenny Wright given anonymously.
In honor of Daniel, Clark, Brett and Lyndsey by Keith & Beth Branham.
In honor of Gale McLeod by Clark & Lyndsey Ebener and Beth Branham.
In honor of Irelou Moye by Clark & Lyndsey Ebener and Beth Branham.
In honor of all the dedicated musicians at the contemporary worship service by Clark & Lyndsey Ebener and Beth Branham.
In thanksgiving for the love and support from her church family at Mt. Tabor by Sarah Whitehead.
Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor
Mrs. Elise Helms, Interim Choir Director
Mrs. Jenny Wright, Guest Musician

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation
Vicar Gayle Nelson, Intern

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