

Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

cover art symbolism Lion o

Lion of Judah powerful, triumphant, kingly Vertical beam of light resurrection and the veil torn

White lily purity, resurrection

Red poppies sacrifice and the blood of Christ

Purple iris royalty, faith

Vines and wheat renewal, spiritual nourishment / communion

Broken chains freedom from sin and death through Christ's victory

Omega (lion's ear) Christ as the beginning and the end

Prelude Fairest Lord Jesus orchestra arr. Stan Pethel

Welcome Pastor Michael Anderson

Silent meditation

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and **after three days rise again**. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Mark 8:31-33

...he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, **after three days he will rise**." But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him. Mark 9:31-32

And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

Mark 10:32-34

Introit Rising

choir and strings

text, Miriam Pederson (2001) music, Susan Guerra (2001)

Light touches the rim of the far hills, then feathered branches of budding trees, simple rooftops, roads. Backs of animals, grasses, stones, ignite and glow in this sure and steady rising.

This day is breaking like no other: birds and insects stir the air with song and whir of flight, then humans rise from sleep, eyes opened to the change from troubled night—the sure and steady rising.

The few who venture to the tomb who see the entrance open and hear the angel's voice declare Christ's victory over death, in fearful joy rush from the site to spread the strange and glorious news as all creation comes to life and brightest sunlight bathes the earth rejoicing in His rising.

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship II Timothy 2:8 [NIV]

Pastor Michael Anderson

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel.

* Christ, the Lord Is Risen Today

congregation

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia! (Slower)

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia! Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

* Invocation



GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

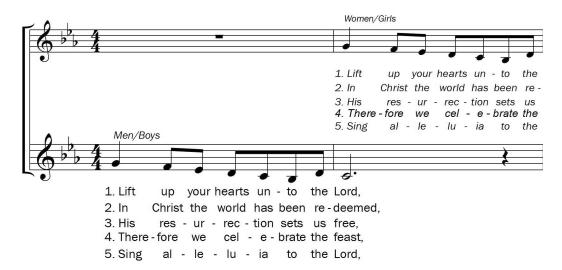
Call to confession Acts 3:19-20a

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...

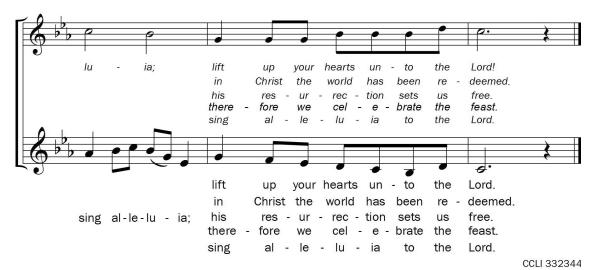
Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord congregation Verses 1-4 from early Christian liturgy; vs. 5 Linda Stassen

Linda Stassen







Declaration of Forgiveness from I Peter 1:3-8

responsively (congregation reads **bold** type)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

In this we rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, we have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of our faith...may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory....

8:30 service

On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:15 service

Church bags for 4- to 6-year-olds are available in the foyer.

Joy to the Heart

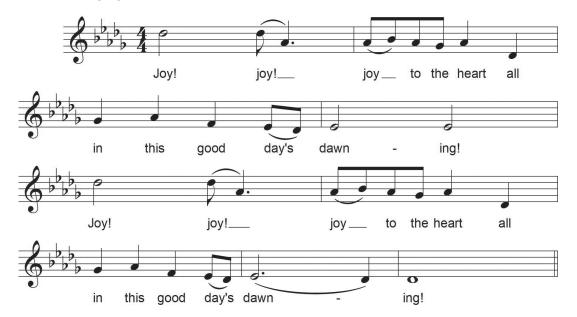
choir and congregation

text, John Frederic Bennett music, K. Lee Scott

Verse 1 - Choir

Look there! the Christ, our Brother, comes resplendent from the gallows tree and what he brings in his hurt hands is life on life for you and me.

Refrain - Congregation



Verse 2 - Choir

Good Jesus Christ inside his pain looked down Golgotha's stony slope and let the blood flow from his flesh to fill the springs of living hope. Refrain

Verse 3 - Choir

Good Jesus Christ, our Brother died in darkest hurt upon the tree to offer us the worlds of light that live inside the Trinity. Refrain

* Verse 4 and Refrain - Congregation



Tag - Choir Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart!

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

Mark 16:1-8

^{16:1} When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Elder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

* Prayer

Ser	mon	Easter Fears Met with Grace	Pastor Andrew VanderMaas
	Fears if Je	esus is Dead	
	Fears if Je	esus is Alive	
	Fears Met	with Grace	

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* Come, People of the Risen King



- 1. Come peo ple of the ris en King who de light to bring Him praise.
- 2. Come those whose joy is morn-ing sun and those weep-ing through the night.
- 3. Come young and old from ev 'ry land, men and wom en of the faith.



Come morn - ing star and tune your hearts to sing to the grace. Come those who tell bat - tles won and those strug-gling in of the fight. Come those with full emp - ty hands. Find the rich - es or of His grace.



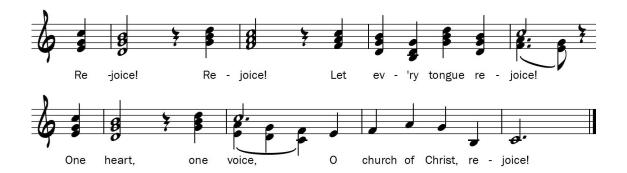
From the shift-ing shad-ows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him,

For His per-fect love will nev-er change and His mer-cies nev-er cease

Ov-er all the world His peo-ple sing, shore to shore we hear them call



gath - er where stead - y arms of mer - cy reach to child - ren in. but through all our days with the cer-tain hope peace. fol - low of the truth that cries through ev - 'ry age, "Our God is all in all!"



Invitation to the Lord's Table Trays will be passed through the rows. The bread served is gluten free. Hold the bread or cup until all are served and we'll partake together.

During the passing of the bread What Wondrous Love Is This orchestra arr. Dana Everson

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through eternity I'll sing on!

During the passing of the cup

Ariston Churchwell, Susy Hemsley and Amos Maupin, readers (8:30)

Maggie Ratajeski and Theo Yasugi, readers (11:15)

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.
Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!
The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?

Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. -Psalm 34:1-14

. . .

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

. . .

"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

—John 14:1-6, 25-27

. . .

O love that casts out fear, O love that casts out sin, tarry no more without, but come and dwell within. True sunlight of the soul, surround us as we go; so shall our way be safe, our feet no straying know.

Great love of God, come in!
Well-spring of heavenly peace;
thou Living Water, come!
Spring up, and never cease.
Love of the living God,
of Father and of Son;
love of the Holy Ghost,
fill thou each needy one.

-by Horatius Bonar

Prayer of Thanksgiving

spoken together

We thank you once again for this meal, this day, this gift of resurrection. Send us out into your world to be the presence of love and hope to all who despair and fear, that all may have life, and life abundant. Alleluia, amen.

Living out our faith announcements about the life of the church

Prayers of the People

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows. Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820

Offertory

Christ Arose

saxophones, piano, and percussion

arr. Dana Everson

Low in the grave he lay– Jesus, my Savior, waiting the coming day– Jesus, my Lord.

Vainly they watch his bed– Jesus, my Savior; vainly they seal the dead– Jesus, my Lord.

Refrain

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever with his saints to reign.

He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

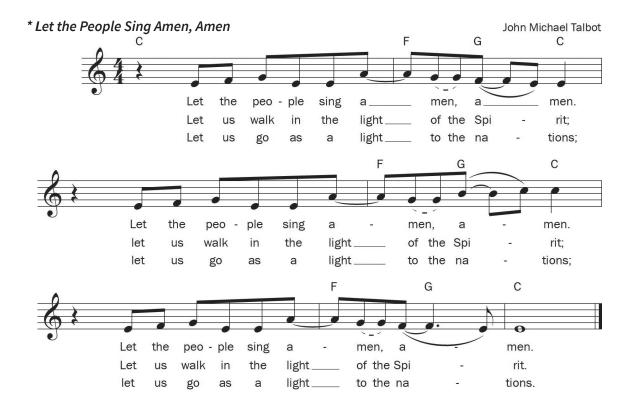
Death cannot keep his prey-Jesus, my Savior; he tore the bars away-Jesus, my Lord. *Refrain*

* Doxology Trinity Hymnal 731

* Benediction

Kids and All: There are baskets of colorful flags around the sanctuary.

You are invited to get one and wave it in the aisle or by your seat as we sing our closing Amen song.



* Postlude There Is a Redeemer orchestra

arr. Mark Kellner

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One Thank you, oh my Father, for giving us your son and leaving your spirit 'til the work on earth is done

Cover Art Morgan West Worship musicians Adult Choir Sarah Helder, director Orchestra Susan Guerra, director Emma van der Veen, song leader Craig Kooienga, song leader