

April 19, 2026 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Introduction and Welcome

Preparation for Worship / Breath Prayer

GATHERING

Prelude

Responsive Call to Worship

I love the Lord!

**Because God has heard me
and not ignored my cry.**

God has saved my life repeatedly!

So my life belongs to God.

I am God's child,

happy to sing of God's work in me.

Opening Prayer

**Loving God, we can hardly believe
how precious we are to you!**

**Holy Spirit, help us to believe this truth
fully with our whole life:
flesh, bone, and spirit. Amen.**

Opening Hymn No. 231 – *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

1 Christ has risen while earth slumbers;

**Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.**

**Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor:
Christ is risen, God is here!**

**2 Christ has risen for the people
whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave.**

**Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
can't be silenced by the tomb.**

**3 Christ has risen and for ever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.**

**Christ is risen, Christ is present
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.**

Children's Song – *Where Children Belong*

**This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
this is where children belong.**

Children's Lesson and Prayer

Surprising God,
Surprising God,
You have promised you will always be with us.
You have promised you will always be with us.
Help us to recognize Jesus
Help us to recognize Jesus
in the hard things,
in the hard things,
the joyful moments,
the joyful moments,
and everything in between.
and everything in between.
Amen.
Amen.

Announcement Reminders

Blessing of New Drivers

CONFESSING

Call To and Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
even as we proclaim the saving life,
death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
we fail to see the living Christ in our midst.
We find ourselves preoccupied
with our own well-being and success,
forgetting your imperative
to love our neighbor as ourselves.
We turn away from people
that challenge our way of thinking,
choosing our pride over relationships.
We look to the ways of this world
and lose hope, lose faith, and lose trust.
Show us again how to live a resurrection faith,
a faith that sees life and hope
in the midst of death and destruction.
Transform our hardened hearts
so they may once again be filled with love
and moved to actions of grace and mercy.
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon and Response No. 447 – *We Are Forgiven*

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

LEARNING

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson – *Luke 24:13-35* (NRSVue)

Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response No. 252 – *Day of Arising

**1 Day of arising, Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.**

**2 When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting
our invitation: Stay, do not part.**

**3 Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.**

**4 Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all creation with you may rise.**

Affirmation of Faith– *A New Creed

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**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 our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

Doxology No. 606 – *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Offering Prayer**

**Lord, we know that every good
and perfect gift comes from you.
We pray that the gifts of time, talent
and treasure we have offered today
will work for the good of the world,
so that your love will be known
not just in word but in action.
In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

Sending Hymn No. 526 – *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

**1 Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**2 Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

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