

Order of Worship

Resurrection of the Lord: Easter Day
April 12, 2020

Prelude "La Majesté" from *Marches Héroïques*
Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767),
arr. Michael Rondeau

Introit The Strife Is O'er VICTORY
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The strife is o'er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun, Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



Call to Worship Based on Psalm 118
Oh give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
for God's steadfast love endures forever!
The Lord is my strength and my song;
God has become my salvation.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
Come, let us worship God!

Hymn 232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today EASTER HYMN
Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinner to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!

Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

Brightness of God's glory and exact image of God's person,
whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison,
shine in the darkest places of our lives.

Let no shadow of the grave terrify us,
and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you.

Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days,
as the first and the last, the Living One, our risen Savior and Lord. Amen.

Life in Community

Christ is risen! Risen indeed!

The peace and joy of the Lord be with you and yours today.

Thanks for joining us for worship on this Easter—wherever you are—as we celebrate
resurrection and the power of God's undying love.

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, often we fail to recognize you
because our expectations blind us to your near presence.
Open our eyes, silence our fears,
help us to see you in the word read and proclaimed,
and then empower us to go and tell others the good news. Amen.

Scripture John 20:1-18

Message *While It Was Still Dark*

Offering

God has held nothing back from us, not even God's own son. On this day of resurrection
when we celebrate that Christ is risen, we respond with joy, showing our gratitude for

God's saving grace through the gifts of God's tithes and our offerings. Let us worship God with our morning's offering.

If you're not a member or friend of the CPC community, consider giving to a faith community where you live, a neighborhood church that could use your support at this time.

In a time of silence now, take a moment to offer thanks for God's gifts to you: time, talent, money, family, friends, life itself. And ask yourself: where is the Spirit leading me to share my gifts through the work of the church and the love of neighbor? {Silence.}

Let us pray:

Lord God, you do love us with a tenacious and everlasting love. We can never earn such favor, deserve such mercy, or repay such grace. We give back to you with joy a portion of what you have entrusted to us. Take these resources as a sign of our gratitude, bless them and use them to spread the good news that Jesus Christ is risen and redemption has been won. Amen.

Musical Offering *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827),

arr. Hal H.

Hopson

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Almighty God, your promises are sure, your love unrelenting, your power unmatched. We bow before you, humbled by your grace, awed by your mercy, rejoicing in your kindness. We do not pretend to understand the mystery of resurrection, but we cannot help but recognize our risen Lord among us, present in our suffering, visible in new creation. Hear our praise as we shout alleluia and tell all the earth of your glorious resurrection. You call us by name, Lord of all.

*Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

Hearing our weeping, you refuse to leave us alone in our grief.

Trusting your compassion, we share our deepest hopes and our greatest fears.
We lift up to your light those crying in the night.
We give thanks for those who have fallen ill and then recovered.
Comfort the many who mourn, families unable to hold funerals,
doctors and nurses confronted constantly with death,
people longing to touch those isolated by this pandemic.
We remember your call to care for the least of these
and ask that you would give us the wisdom
to serve in ways that show your love for all people.
When we cannot physically be present,
send your Spirit as we send our notes,
make our calls and do all we can to visit those in prison,
house those without shelter and heal the sick.
Help us to feed those who hunger physically, spiritually or emotionally.
May your body, the Church, be united in our caring,
radical in our generosity, and stalwart in our advocacy.
When this season of isolation and sickness comes to an end,
do not let us forget the lessons this forced physical distancing have taught us.
Take this trying time, these struggles and hardships,
and use them for good in ways we cannot now envision,
but that you have the power and will to enact.

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

On this day of resurrection, filled with fear and joy, we worship,
we sing, we weep, we give thanks, and most of all,
we marvel at your unwillingness
to leave us to the consequences of our actions,
your tenacious desire to be in relationship with us
and your amazing grace through which you have saved us.
We make our prayer in the name of the one who taught us to say when we pray, Our
Father...

Hymn 238 Thine Is the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS
*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone way,*

*kept the folded graveclothes where thy body away.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory, thou o'er death has won.*

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymn of triumph sing. Refrain.*

*Now more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. Refrain.*

Blessing

Go and tell what you have seen and know:
Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you now and remain with you always.

Postlude: "Rondeau" from *Symphonies de Fanfares, Suite 1, Mvt. 1*

Jean Joseph Mouret (1682-1738),
arr. Michael Rondeau

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Participants:

- Dorothy Boulton, *associate pastor*
- Frank Gorecki, *trumpet*
- Douglas Heist, *organ/piano*
- Greg Knauf, *soloist*
- Susan Krehbiel, *soloist*
- Kenneth E. Kovacs, *pastor*

Sources:

- Jill Duffield, Liturgy for Easter Sunday (adapted), *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2020.

- *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013).
- Pastoral Prayer Response taken from "Now the Green Blade Rises," *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, #247.
- "Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-701444"