

Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

Rejoice, too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.

Rejoice, O church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Festival of Easter

HYMN

The Day of Resurrection | #356: congregation v.1
choir v.2
congregation v.3

INVOCATION

Romans 6; 1 Corinthians 15

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

P: Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again;

C: Death no longer rules over him.

P: For the death that he died, he died to sin once for all time,

C: But the life he lives, he lives to God.

P: So, you too consider yourselves dead to sin

C: And alive to God in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

P: Christ has been raised from the dead,

C: The first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

P: For since death came through a man,

C: The resurrection of the dead also comes through a man.

P: For as in Adam all die,

C: So also in Christ all will be made alive. Alleluia!

ANTHEM

Begin the Song of Glory Now

*Begin the song of glory now: the Son has risen from his grave!
The night of mourning long is past; life has a purpose, after all.
Our Samson smashed the gates of hell, and we are free at last, at last!
Begin the song of glory now: the Son has risen from our grave!*

*Prepare the song of glory now: the Son has risen from his grave!
Composers, players, find new sounds for ev'ry instrument and voice:
A note, a chord, an aria, a Kyrie, a Gloria.
Prepare the song of glory now: the Son has risen from our grave!*

*Repeat the song of glory now: the Son has risen from his grave!
Compete the Easter overture, and join the Alleluia choir.
'In Jesus' name' the song begin, and end: 'All praise to God alone!'
Repeat the song of glory now, repeat the song of glory now, repeat the song of glory now:
The Son has risen from our grave!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray that we rejoice in Christ's victory: O God, you gave Jesus Christ, your only-begotten Son, to redeem us by dying on the cross, and to rescue us from the power of the enemy by rising from the dead. With each new day, put to death everything that is sinful in us, so that we may live forever with him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 19:23–27

“Stand on the earth” is a fine translation of the Hebrew. But more literally it says, “He will rise over the dust.” The Old Testament often uses ‘rising’ to mean ‘triumph over’ and ‘dust’ as symbolic of the ‘grave.’

²³ “Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, ²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! ²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; ²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

ANTHEM

I Will Rise

*There's a peace I've come to know though my heart and flesh may fail.
There's an anchor for my soul. I can say, 'It is well.'
Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed.
The victory is won, he is risen from the dead.
And I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain,
I will rise on eagle's wings. Before my God fall on my knees and rise. I will rise. I will rise.*

*There's a day that's drawing near when this darkness breaks to light.
And the shadows disappear and my faith shall be my eyes.
Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed.
The victory is won, he is risen from the dead.
And I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain,
I will rise on eagle's wings. Before my God fall on my knees and rise. I will rise. I will rise.*

*And I hear the voice of many angels sing, 'Worthy is the Lamb!'
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart, 'Worthy is the Lamb!'
And I hear the voice of many angels sing, 'Worthy is the Lamb!'
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart, 'Worthy is the Lamb!' 'Worthy is the Lamb!'*

*And I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain,
I will rise on eagle's wings. Before my God fall on my knees and rise. I will rise.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

Without Easter Sunday, none of the rest of the Sundays in the year make sense.

¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

SERMON

Mark 16:1–8

These women expected Jesus to do what all dead people do—decompose. Everything was as it always had been. As it always would be. That is, until the resurrection changed everything.

¹ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶ "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, 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, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.' "

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today | #352

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERING

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

ANTHEM

Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

**Congregation: Christ the Lord is ris'n again! Christ hath broken ev'ry chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high,**

Choir: Alleluia, Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia!

**Women: He who gave for us His life, who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today! We, too, sing for joy, and say Alleluia.**

**Men: He who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry.**


*Choir: Now he bids us tell abroad how the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiv'n, how we, too, may enter heav'n. Alleluia!*

**Congregation: Christ the Lord is ris'n again! Christ hath broken ev'ry chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high.**

Choir: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

HYMN

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | #351: v. 1, 2, 8

Preacher..... Pastor Bernt Tweit | **Liturgist**..... Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad
Choir Director..... Allen Labitzky | **Organist and pianist**..... Karen Merseth
Trombone Deb Anderson | **Piano** Jenny Merseth
Percussion..... Maggie Slaker, Phyllis Thomforde
Soloists..... Abby Marozick, Calleigh Stavig, Paul Thomforde



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