

# **A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day**

## **Easter Sunrise Service**

**April 20, 2025, 7:00 AM**

**Introit:**

**"Were You There"**

**Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?**

**Call to Worship:**

**Leader:** We have journeyed with Jesus since Galilee.

**People:** We have followed him, listened to him, and provided for him.

**Leader:** We saw him set his face to Jerusalem.

**People:** We heard him say that the Son of Man would be handed over.

**Leader:** We joined him as he entered the city.

**People:** We shouted 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'

**Leader:** We heard him teach in the Temple.

**People:** We heard him speak against the religious elites, we heard them plotting to kill him.

**Leader:** We saw him handed over to Rome.

**People:** We saw him beaten and hung to die on a cross.

**Leader:** Yet when we come with spices to pay our final respects,

**People:** we hear the good news that he is not in the tomb but has risen! Thanks be to God!

**Invocation and the Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn**

**"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"**

**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! Sinners to redeem and save. 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!**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Leader:** The peace of our Lord be with you!

**People:** And also with you!

**Hymn**

**"Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks"**

**Alleluia, alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, Give praise to His Name.  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the King of creation. \*Chorus**

Spread the good news o'er all the earth, Jesus has died and has risen. \*Chorus  
We have been crucified with Christ, now we shall live forever. \*Chorus

Scripture

Luke 23:50-24:10

Meditation

“Unexpected News”

Rev. AJ Ochart

Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967)

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful [people]. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment under which all [ ] stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all [ ].

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for man. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work. Amen.

Closing Hymn

“I Danced in the Morning”

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon  
and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven  
and I danced on the earth, at Bethlehem I had My birth.

Chorus - “Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance”, said He.  
“And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the Dance,” said He.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance  
with the devil on your back; they buried my body  
and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.

\*Chorus

They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me. “I am the Lord of the Dance,” said He.

\*Chorus

Charge and Benediction

Please join us for breakfast and coffee in our Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.