

## Worship Service for March 31, 2024

### Easter Proclamation ~

Annie Crumb ~ He is risen!

Everyone ~ He is risen indeed!

### Welcome and Announcements ~

**Thursday** ~ There will be an Interfaith Council meeting at 11:45 am at Israel Congregation.

**Saturday** ~ Anyone who would like to be part of the planning for this year's Summer Discovery Camp in July is welcome to attend a meeting at 1 pm at Zion Episcopal Church.

Happy Birthday to Cathy Comar on Saturday



Thank you to those who brought flowers today

**Prelude** ~ Everyone is invited to come and place a small bouquet of flowers in the Easter cross, in honor of Christ's Resurrection as the worship team shares two songs ~

“O Praise the Name (Anastasis)” and “Christ is Risen.”  
You can sing along if you would like.



### “O Praise The Name (Anástasis)”

*I cast my mind to Calvary, where Jesus bled and died for me  
I see His wounds His hands His feet, my Savior on that cursed tree*

*His body bound and drenched in tears*

*They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb*

*The entrance sealed by heavy stone, Messiah still and all alone*

### Chorus

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God*

*O praise His Name forevermore*

*For endless days we will sing Your praise*

*Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

*Then on the third at break of dawn, the Son of heaven rose again*

*O trampled death where is your sting?*

*The angels roar for Christ the King*

### Chorus

*He shall return in robes of white, the blazing sun shall pierce the night*

*And I will rise among the saints, my gaze transfixed on Jesus' face*

### Chorus two times

*O Lord, oh Lord our God*

CCLI Song # 7037787 Benjamin Hastings | Dean Ussher | Marty Sampson  
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### “Christ is Risen”

*Let no one caught in sin remain inside the lie of inward shame*

*But fix our eyes upon the cross and run to Him who showed great love*

*And bled for us freely You've bled for us*

### Chorus

*Christ is risen from the dead trampling over death by death*

*Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave*

*Christ is risen from the dead, we are one with Him again*

*Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave*

*Beneath the weight of all our sin You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown, no burden great can hold You down*

*In strength You reign, forever let Your church proclaim*

### Chorus

*O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory*

*O church, come stand in the light. The glory of God has defeated the night*

*Singing O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory*

*O church, come stand in the light. Our God is not dead. He's alive He's alive*

### Chorus 2 times

*Rise up from the grave*

CCLI Song # 5242683 Matt Maher | Mia Fieldes CCLI License # 11289244  
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**Call to Worship ~ Psalm 16:8-11 (NIV)** read by Annie Crumb

Please join in saying the bold lines.

I keep my eyes always on the Lord.

**With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices;

**my body also will rest secure,**

because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

**nor will you let your faithful one see decay.**

You make known to me the path of life;

**you will fill me with joy in your presence,**

**with eternal pleasures at your right hand.**

**Song ~ “Christ the Lord is Risen Today!” (#216 in the blue hymnal)**

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*

*All creation join to say, Alleluia!*

*Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!*

*Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!*

*Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!*

*Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!*

*Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!*

*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!*

Words ~ Charles Wesley, 1739 and Music ~ *Lyra Davidica*, 1708 | Public Domain

**Praying Together** ~ Please join in reading the bold lines.

Eternal Lord, we gather together with joy in our hearts.

**Today we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus our Savior.**

It reminds us that you have power over death  
and nothing is stronger than your love.

**Help us to trust in your love for us.**

May everything that happens here today bring honor to You  
for all You are and all You have done in Jesus Christ and in us.

**We give you thanks in Jesus’ name.**

You gave us the gift of your Spirit  
and promised that you would never forsake us.

**Yet at times we have felt abandoned by you,**

**because we have looked for you**

**only in ways that fit our limited expectations**

**for in tombs of dead traditions that have no power.**

We forget that you are a living God.

**Lord, forgive us.**

Help us, Lord Jesus, to see you through the eyes of faith.

**Help us to encounter You wherever You choose to meet us.**

Open our hearts to Your presence even now  
and in every situation we face.

**May the power that raised Jesus from the dead  
flow into our lives bringing life and every new possibility  
as we lift our silent prayers to you.**

And now we pray the prayer Jesus taught us ~

**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 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.**

**Song ~ “Christ Arose!” (#224 in the blue hymnal)**

*Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior  
Waiting the coming day, 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!***

*Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior  
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord! (Refrain)*

*Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior  
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord (Refrain)*

Words and Music by Robert Lowry, 1874 | Public Domain

**Introducing the Sermon ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons**

**Scripture Text ~ Mark 16:1-14 (NIV) read by Annie Crumb**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup> and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

<sup>4</sup> But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

<sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

<sup>6</sup> “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.

<sup>7</sup> 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.’”

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

*(Continued on the next page)*

[The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have verses 9–20.]

<sup>9</sup> When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

<sup>10</sup> She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping.

<sup>11</sup> When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it.

<sup>12</sup> Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country.

<sup>13</sup> These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either.

<sup>14</sup> Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen.

**Sermon ~ “The Struggle to Believe” ~ Rev. Rebecca Sommons**

**Song ~ “Thine is the Glory” (#218 in the blue hymnal)**

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son  
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away  
Kept the folded graveclothes where the body lay*

**Refrain**

***Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won***

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom  
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing  
For our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting (Refrain)*

*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!  
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife  
Make us more than conquerors, though thy deathless love  
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above (Refrain)*

Words ~ Edmond L. Budry, 1904, Music ~ George Frederick Handel, 1746 | Public Domain

**Benediction ~ Romans 15:13 and Hebrews 13:20-21 (NLT)**

<sup>13</sup> I pray that God, the source of hope,  
will fill you completely with joy and peace  
because you trust in him.  
Then you will overflow with confident hope  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace—  
who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
the great Shepherd of the sheep,  
and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—

<sup>21</sup> may he equip you with all you need  
for doing his will.

May he produce in you,  
through the power of Jesus Christ,  
every good thing that is pleasing to him.

All glory to him forever and ever!

Amen.

