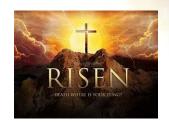
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY





EASTER SUNDAY 10:00 AM MARCH 31, 2024

PRELUDE

BELL CHOIR

Resurrection Day!
Easter Morning Celebration
Conquering the Grave

by Lloyd Larson by Michael Helman arr. Craig Laumann

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Sandi Pascone

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day:

when tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended; fears are replaced with joy.

This is the day the Lord:

rolls away the stone of fear; throws off death's clothes; goes ahead of us into God's future.

This is the day the Lord has made:

death has no fear for us; sin has lost its power over us; God opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.

This is the day - Easter Day!

Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" (See page 11)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

On this morning of hallelujahs, we must confess how human we are, Emptier of tombs. We haven't done any great evil, but we have failed to do good when we had the chance. We have not intentionally hurt anyone, nor have we offered healing to the broken. We easily accept the witness of the angel in the tomb, but find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbors.

Bring us new life, Dazzling God. Where we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation; transform our hardened hearts into fountains of grace; forgive us of all the damage we have done, and fill us with the joy of your Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, who gives us new life, we pray.

SILENT MEDITATION

LORD HAVE MERCY (3x)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

On this very first day, and every day, we walk as God's people, forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE ARE FORGIVEN (1x)

SHARING THE PEACE

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ISAIAH 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Ride On, King Jesus"

arr. Kern

ALM 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

JOHN 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus 'head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Glory to you, Lord Christ!

SERMON "Hope Rising" Rev. Dr. Higgs

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

We pause to reflect on the message

If you wish, you may want to use the following breath prayer (or any of your choice). The words may

be said aloud or in silence

Breathe in: "Eternal Light,"

Breathe out: "... guide me in your way."

HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" (See page 13)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Benton

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

That churches of all traditions......O God,

hear our prayer.

That the earth may be freed from war, famine, and disease......O God,

hear our prayer.

That those who govern and maintain peace in every land,O God,

hear our prayer.

That you will strengthen this nation to pursueO God,

hear our prayer.

That you will preserve all who live......O God,

hear our prayer.

That you will comfort and empower.....O God,

hear our prayer.

That you will accept our thanksgiving.......O God,

hear our prayer.

Together, let us pray:

Merciful God, as a potter fashions a vessel from humble clay, you form us into a new creation. Shape us, day by day, through the cross of Christ your Son, until we pray as continually as we breathe and all our acts are prayer; through Jesus Christ and in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we pray.

Amen.

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY "Because He Lives" John Purifoy

DOXOLOGY "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" #809

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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 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.

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

(See page 14)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go out into the world.....be with us all. Amen.

O Lord, may you this week open up doors for us to share your love!

CHORAL RESPONSE "Christ is Risen" Lloyd Larson

POSTLUDE "The Heavens Declare" Marcello

MINISTERS: Scott and Donna Scioli (Ushers), Jeanne Martin (Flower Delivery), Cheryl Cinque (Refreshments)

<u>THE CHANCEL FLOWERS</u> presented to the Glory of God by Betty Herskovitz in memory of her good friend and coworker, Tobi Sherwood.



EASTER LILIES GIVEN BY THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES

Joy Connolly in loving memory of her husband Charles (Willy) and her son Darren James

Carol Ortlip in gratitude for kind friends

Diane Steel in loving memory of her husband, Robert Steel and her parents Marcia and Cliff Jones
The Cinque Family in memory of Ginny and Edy Mozzi and in gratitude for loved ones
Ronald H. Green in memory of James and Doris Hewitt

Karen Schwartz in gratitude for family and friends

Barbara and Paul VanTassel in memory of loved ones

Michael and Jeanne Martin Family in loving memory of Walter Cowan, Jr. and Mickey and Bridget Martin.

Julia and Craig Slater in memory of Julia's parents, Betty and Bob Graham, in memory of Craig's parents, Adele and Artie and in gratitude for their church family

Michael and Bonnie Cain in gratitude for their loving family

David Landgraf in gratitude for the gift and sacrifice of Jesus Christ

Kelly and Bob Higgs in memory of Richard and Lavonne Higgs, Betty and Gil Damon and Kay and John Shaffer

The Scioli family in gratitude for loved ones

Marge and Skip Jeffries in honor of their grandchildren

Betty Herskovitz in loving memory of her husband, Sy Herskovitz and her brother Buster Nagel Treva Grunigen in gratitude for God's many blessings

Cynthia Joffe in loving memory of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Simon Gurgul and in loving memory of her sister, Bunny Doyle

Ann, Anthony, Nicole and Greg DiBona in loving memory of Angela and Nicholas Testa and Anthony



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. SOUP SALE!

The next soup sale will be Sunday, April 14th. If you are willing to make some soup for our next sale, please contact Mary Lou at 609-417-5639. Thank you!

2. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour is Sharing Offering by making an online gift anytime throughout the year. Presbyterian Special Offerings - One Great Hour of Sharing (pcusa.org) Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church.

3. BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR BOB

Online Bible study is on Wednesday April 10 at 7PM. A link will be emailed to you.

4. SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: Calling all children ages 4 and above! Join us for Sunday school on the following dates! April 21st and May 19th.

5. DAILY PRAYER

Covenant is now offering Daily Prayer videos narrated by our new Pastor, Bob! This is a wonderful way to begin each day in prayer. If you are not receiving them, please notify Bob, or Greg and you will be placed on the email list.

- **6. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED!** Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.
- **7. BIBLE STUDY** The Bible Study will be located in the lounge on Mondays at 11AM. All are welcome! **8. STEWARDSHIP:** Total Income for 3/24: \$1710.00, Envelope Giving: \$1370.00, Deacons Fund: \$75.00.

9. PIANO DUET CONCERT

Join Music Directors Diana Dohrmann and Greg DiBona for a concert of piano duets on Sunday, May 19 at 3PM at Calvary Presbyterian Church.



PRAYER LIST



Thankful prayers for the wonderful members of our choir under the fine direction of Greg DiBona, and for Pastor Bob and Mike Martin for providing an inspiring cantata service. And thank you to Mandy Rosica for leading worship with Call to Worship and announcing upcoming activities. Elisa Muzzillo provided fine music with her flute. Thank you! And delicious homemade treats were enjoyed thanks to Nancy Perritt.

Please pray for our families and friends this week:

Julia Slater - will have hip replacement surgery - prayers for excellent results and comfort and rest for Julia as she prepares for her mother's funeral service and managing her mother's affairs.

Chris Todd - thankful that his eye is doing well following surgery

Ron Green's wife, Barbara - upcoming surgery that will be helpful to her

Dave DuBois - strength and recovery following fall recently and strength for B. Ann

Dale Neas - prayers for strength following a setback that had him in the hospital

Bruce - recovery from tough few days following chemo last Friday

Janette's sister, Joan - rest and comfort as she is cared for by hospice

Linda Ballenger's cousin, Sally - good progress as she is treated for cancer

Mary Lou's friends:

Arlene - recovery from heart surgery

Logan -2-year-old battling cancer - prayers for successful treatment

Dave - serious health issues

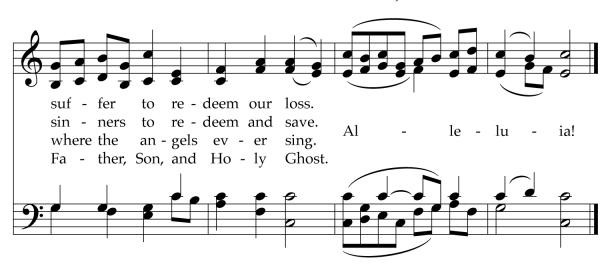
Marchelle - successful cancer treatment

Barbara Van Tassel's friend, Judy - continued good progress

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



It seems likely that this beloved Easter text began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.



SPANISH

- 1 El Señor resucitó, ¡Aleluya! muerte y tumba ya venció. ¡Aleluya! Con su fuerza y su virtud ¡Aleluya! cautivó la esclavitud. ¡Aleluya!
- 2 El que al polvo se humilló, ¡Aleluya! vencedor se levantó. ¡Aleluya! Cante hoy la cristiandad ¡Aleluya! su gloriosa majestad. ¡Aleluya!
- 3 Cristo, que la cruz sufrió, ¡Aleluya! y en desolación se vio, ¡Aleluya! hoy en gloria celestial ¡Aleluya! reina vivo e inmortal. ¡Aleluya!
- 4 Cristo, nuestro Salvador, ¡Aleluya! de la muerte es triunfador. ¡Aleluya! En El hemos de confiar. ¡Aleluya! Cantaremos sin cesar. ¡Aleluya!

KOREAN

- 1 예수부활 했으니 할렐루야 만민찬송 하여라 천사들이 즐거워 기쁜찬송 부르네
- 2 대속하신 주예수 할렐루야 선한싸움 이겼네 사망권세 이기고 하늘문을 여셨네
- 3 마귀권세 이긴주 할렐루야 왕의왕이 되셨네 높은이름 세상에 널리반포 하여라
- 4 길과진리 되신주 할렐루야 우리부활 하겠네 부활생명 되시니 우리부활 하겠네

In Christ There Is No East or West 318



This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain 234



One of the many ancient hymns translated into English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.