



He is risen;
he is not here. MARK 16:6

St. Andrew Worship
Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

**Stand in body or spirit*

Easter Greeting (*Responsive*)

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

Introit

"Resurrection Morning"

St. Andrew Choir

*Gathering Song

"Woman Weeping in the Garden"

Hymn 241

*Woman, weeping in the garden, who has pushed the stone aside?
Who has taken Jesus' body, Jesus Christ the crucified?*

*Woman, waiting in the garden, after men have come and gone,
after angels give their witness, silently you watch the dawn.*

*Woman, walking in the garden, Jesus takes you by surprise;
when the gardener calls you, "Mary!" faith and joy meet in your eyes.*

*Woman, weeping in the garden, weep for joy, for you have seen
Jesus, the Messiah, risen; Christ, of whom the prophets dream.*

*Woman, dancing from the garden, find the others and proclaim
Christ is risen as he promised; tell the world he knew your name!*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Friday we had lost so much
we lost the light
we lost the argument
we lost love
we lost life
we lost God
we lost Jesus

*But this morning we found
the tomb - empty
the morning - bright
the gardener - walking
the stone - rolled
the disciples - running
the woman - proclaiming
the resurrection - waiting
and Jesus - risen*

It is good we have found our way here
this is Easter Day
love is back
We are Resurrection People!



During any of the hymns, please come forward and place a few flowers on the cross, turning something lifeless into a living representation of the new life we have in Christ.

*Hymn 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

with St. Andrew Bells Choir

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!

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!

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace

Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb found empty. Mary calls out, “I have seen the Lord!” We have seen Christ, too, in every helping hand, in every heartfelt gift, in every choice to restore life in this world. We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation. You are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and know that God loves you and desires great joy for your life. Alleluia. Amen.

Response: *Gloria Patria* (*Unison*)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Song of Prayer

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying

Lord, lis-ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, _____ Lord, send your

Spir-it in this place; _____ Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

pray - ing, _____ send us love, send us power, send us grace. _____

Prayers Lifted to God

*Hymn 246

"Christ Is Alive!"

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Send your Spirit among us, O God, as we meditate on your love. Prepare our minds to hear your Word, move our hearts to embrace what we hear, and strengthen our will to follow your way. This we pray through Christ, our Risen Savior. Amen.

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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. ²So 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." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and 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. ¹³They 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." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus 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." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus 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.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*Affirmation (*Responsive*) by Sharlande Sledge

When others dismiss your story as an idle tale, who will you be?

Resurrection people with Easter in our hearts.

When the world seems to be crumbling around you, remember who you are:

Resurrection people with Easter in our hearts.

When despair would seem to squelch all hope, believe in who you have become:

Resurrection people with Easter in our hearts.

When it is hard to persevere against all odds, trust in God who names you:

Resurrection people with Easter in our hearts.

As we follow Christ into the world, may God help us remember who we are . . .
resurrection people with Easter in our hearts.

The Worship of God Through Giving

Offertory Music

"Lift High the Cross" arr. Larry Sue

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

*God of great gifts: This morning we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks!
With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We
joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for
your kingdom come! Amen.*

*Hymn 245

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

with St. Andrew Bells Choir

"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!

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!

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!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!

Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!

Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!

Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Benediction

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!