

## PRELUDE

*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain!*/ arr. A. Fedak  
*Christ the Lord is Risen Today!*/ arr. D. Smart  
*On Easter Morning Early!*/ S. Douglas  
*Ye Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!*/ trad. French  
*Alleluia! The Strife is O'er!*/ Palestrina

◇ A time of quiet preparation *Now is Christ Risen from the Dead!*/ A. Ottenwalder

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

from I Corinthians 15:3-20 (NIV)

Leader: For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance:  
that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

People: **That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,**

Leader: And that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

People: **After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living,**

Leader: But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead,  
how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

People: **If there is no resurrection of the dead,  
then not even Christ has been raised.**

Leader: If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile;  
you are still in your sins.

People: **If only for this life we have hope in Christ,  
we are to be pitied more than all men.**

Leader: But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead,

People: **The Lord is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!**

### CHORAL INTROIT

*Good Christian Men, Rejoice and Sing!*/ Trinity Hymnal p. 270

\*HYMN 277

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

### PRAYER

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*Christ lag in Todesbanden:* Words by Martin Luther, Music by Johann Hermann Schein

*Resurrection Day:* Words and Music by Z. Randall Stroope ©2010 Birnamwood Publications

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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 will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**WORSHIP SONGS**

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

**WELCOME TO VISITORS**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

I Cor. 15:20-58, selected verses (NIV)  
Leaders: Dwight & Lynn McKay

**LEADERS**

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead,  
**The firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**  
For since death came through a man,  
**The resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.**  
For as in Adam all die,  
**So in Christ all will be made alive.**  
But each in its own turn: Christ the firstfruits;  
**Then, when Christ comes, those who belong to him.**  
The body that is sown is perishable, **it is raised imperishable;**

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Arisen, Is Our Holy Lord/* arr. K. Kosche

Arisen is Our Holy Lord  
Arisen is Our Holy Lord, Alleluia, alleluia.  
Who to the world God's grace affords. Alleluia, alleluia.  
If Christ from death had not aris'n, Alleluia, alleluia.  
The world by death remained impris'ned.  
But now victorious, Christ we praise; Alleluia, alleluia.  
Voices triumphant loudly raise.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

**EASTER MESSAGE**

*Seeking the Living Among the Dead*

Scripture text: Luke 24:1-12

Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Resurrection Day/* Z. Randall Stroope

When the world gave the tomb, the tomb gave new life. Hosanna!  
And when the stone sealed the light, the Light moved the stone. Hosanna!  
Behold the fire of Elijah, the strength of David's arm!  
Behold the Lion of Judah: Our cloud by day, our fire by night,  
Promise of Abraham. Hosanna!  
Wisdom of Solomon, and the rod of Moses,  
Promise of Abraham, and the song of Miriam,  
tears of Jeremiah, and the faith of Joshua,  
The Lord is all! All of these! Hosanna!  
When the nails pierced the Lamb, the Lamb freed our bonds. Hosanna!  
Righteousness, Holiness! Robed in pure white! Hosanna!  
Behold the fire of Elijah, the strength of David's arm!  
Behold the Lion of Judah;  
Our cloud by day, our fire by night,  
Promise of Abraham.  
Behold the Lamb Robed in white!  
Behold the King of all ages. Alleluia!

**HYMN 267**

*The Day of Resurrection*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

It is sown in dishonor, **it is raised in glory;**  
It is sown in weakness, **it is raised in power;**  
It is sown a natural body, **it is raised a spiritual body.**  
If there is a natural body, **there is also a spiritual body.**

So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”;

**The last Adam, a life-giving spirit.**

The spiritual did not come first, but the natural,

**And after that the spiritual.**

The first man was of the dust of the earth,

**The second man from heaven.**

As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth;

**And as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.**

And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man,

**So shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.**

I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God,

**Nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.**

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—

**In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.**

For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable,

**And we will be changed.**

When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable,

**And the mortal with immortality,**

Then the saying that is written will come true:

**“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”**

#### **CONGREGATION:**

**“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”**

**The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.**

**But thanks be to God!**

**He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **LEADERS**

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm.

**Let nothing move you.**

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,

**Because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.**

#### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands/ J. Schein*

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands For our offenses given;  
But now at God's right hand he stands And brings us life from heaven.  
Therefore let us joyful be, Sing to God,  
And sing right thankfully Loud songs of alleluia! Alleluia!

#### **OFFERING/OFFERTORY**

*Cantata No. 4 Verse 3/J. S. Bach*

Douglas Weaver, Tenor; Rachel Vos, Violin

Lord Jesus Christ God's only Son,  
to our low state descended.  
The knot of Sin has been undone,  
The claim of Death is ended.  
Christ has crushed the pow'r of Hell,  
now there is naught but Death's gray shell,  
Its sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 24:1-12 (NIV)

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” Then they remembered his words.

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.