



**April 20, 2025
Easter Day**

GATHERING AND PRAISE
*Please stand as you are able

Welcome

Prelude

Alleluiah!

Mozart

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist

Christ the Lord is risen today.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Earth and heaven in chorus say:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Opening Prayer**

Liturgist

God of life and love, we are eager to hear the good news of new life.

Enter our lives and cast our fears aside.

Lead us on a journey from grief and despair to hope and joy.

We are ready to celebrate and give thanks for your transforming love.

We are eager to rejoice in the glory of this day!

Give us Easter spirits and open hearts. Amen.

***Hymn**

View last page for words

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Verses 1-4

UMH 302

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Liturgist

The message of peace is good news through Jesus Christ! Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of the resurrected Christ.

Children's Message

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

The Day of Resurrection

Choir and Congregation

View last page for words.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Liturgist

God of life and love, we are here this morning

to hear the good news of Easter.

Cast aside our doubts and fears,

that we may hear your deep truth of life.

Help us listen with expectation and hope. Amen.

Matthew 28:1-15

Liturgist

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Guards' Report

¹¹ While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. ¹² When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, ¹³ telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were

asleep.’¹⁴ If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.”¹⁵ So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

***Hymn**

He Lives

UMH 310

Sermon

Come and See. Go and Tell.

Pastor Larry

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle’s Creed

Liturgist

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;* the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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**

Morning Prayer

Pastor Larry

The 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

Liturgist

God is good.
God’s faithful love endures forever!
God is our strength and protection.
God’s gracious joy brightens our lives!
Let us give thanks to God through our gifts!
We will rejoice and share God’s bounty!

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

The Cross of Jesus

Stainer

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Liturgist

“Together, let us dedicate our tithes and offerings to God.”

**God of life and love, we are grateful
for your promise of resurrection and new life.**

**Your love is stronger than the powers of evil
and injustice.**

With joy, we bring our gifts to you this day.

**Use our gifts and our lives to proclaim Christ’s triumph
over death. Amen**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

***Hymn**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

View last page for words.

***Benediction**

Pastor Larry

***Choral Benediction**

He Lives

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me

Along life’s narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

***Postlude**

Voices Exultant

Nolte

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*2. 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!*

*3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!*

*4. 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!*

HE LIVES

*I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever foes may say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near.*

Refrain:

***He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart***

*In all the world around me I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair
I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing will come at last **Refrain***

*Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find
None other is so loving, so good and kind. **Refrain***

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

*The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.*

*2. Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.*

*3. Now let the heavens be joyful!
Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph,
and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.*

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

*Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.*

*2. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.*

*3. Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.*

*4. Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.*