

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday

PREPARATION, PROMISES, AND PRAISE

(We invite you to quiet yourself in preparation for the worship of God when you hear the prelude music.)

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SHARE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude	"This Joyful Eastertide" Carillonneurs	arr. Afdahl
Gathering Music	"Jesus Is Alive" FirstKids	Berry
Introit	"Christ the Lord Is Risen Again"	Stopford
Call to Worship		The Rev. Robert Smith
Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen. People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Leader: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. People: He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead. Leader: God has claimed us as his own. People: He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world. Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen. People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!		
*Hymn	"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"	No. 277 arr. Johnson

*Prayer of Adoration

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the Good News! *"Death has been swallowed up in victory." "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, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Because of Christ's atoning work, all those who are in Christ are completely forgiven!
Thanks be to God! —1 Corinthians 15:54-57

*Gloria Patri

No. 735

(Let the children come forward during the singing of the Gloria.)

LISTENING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time

The Rev. Robert Smith

*Children's Worship is provided for ages 4–4th grade in Room 205.
Parents, please escort your children to this room.*

*Hymn

"Thine Be the Glory"

No. 274

arr. Hobby

(The congregation may come forward to place their 2¢-Meal offering in the container at the front of the Sanctuary)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Acts 10:34-43

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Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"See Him Rise, Alleluia!"

Wagner

Charlie Blueweiss, solo

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

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Sermon

"The Resurrection"

The Rev. Robert Smith

RESPONSE IN DEDICATION AND OBEDIENCE

Prayers of the People of God and Our Lord's Prayer

*Affirmation of Faith

"The Apostles' Creed"

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**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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into
heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

Offering of Ourselves to God and to One Another

Our Greetings

Offertory "Hail Thee, Festival Day" arr. Burkhardt

Our Gratitude

"The Doxology" No. 731

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn "The Day of Resurrection" No. 267

Easter Amen "Alleluia, Amen!" (last line of hymn 277)

Postlude "Finale from *First Symphony*" Vierne

*The Congregation is asked to stand, as you are able.

Reminders

Elders: Stuart Bain, Tom Turner

Sound System: Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Rea Brown

Greeters:

Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30):

Narthex (10:00-10:30):

April 9 - Barry & Anne Webb

April 9 - Jan Tyree, Brenda White-Edwards

April 16 - Teal Bennett

April 16 - Ron & T.K. Sharpley

April 23 - Bud & Jesse Derey

April 23 - Andrea Guillard

April 30 - Nancy Gillespie

April 30 - Deborah Mattern

Deacons on Duty:

April 9 - Pat Guerrant, Debbie Bennett

April 16 - Sidney Keyes, Carolyn Keyes

April 23 - Brenda White-Edwards, Linda Brown

April 30 - Marica Ridenhour, Sheila Harms

Acolytes:

April 9 - Elizabeth Rice

April 16 - Charlotte Bain

April 23 - Bryleigh Trevett

April 30 - Emma & Kylie Woolard

Nursery:

April 9 - Karen Brooks

April 16 - Wendy Andree

April 23 - Bill Brooks

Hearing devices are located in the Narthex to assist in listening to today's service.

Pastor: The Rev. Robert D. Smith

Director of Music & Children's Ministries: Mrs. Patricia K. Trail

Director of Youth & Christian Education: Mr. Pete G. Guillard

Organist: Mr. William Turner

Handbell Director: Dr. Erma Rose