

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 1, 2018

*To protect the Worship environment,
please, no drinks in the Sanctuary, and remember to turn off cell phones.*

THE GATHERING

***#217 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? 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!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

TEXT: Charles Wesley MUSIC: from Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

***THE ANNOUNCEMENT**

LEADER: Christ is risen.

ALL: He is risen indeed!

***THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Shout Hosanna

To the King of glory and light, all praises
To the only Giver of life, our Maker
The gates are open wide; we worship You

Come see what love has done, amazing
He bought us with His blood, our Savior
The Cross has overcome; we worship You

(chorus)

Shout Hosanna Jesus He saves!
Shout Hosanna He rose from the grave!
Come and lift Him up, Hosanna!

Now let the lost be found, forgiven
Death could not hold Him down, He's risen
So let the saints cry out, we worship You

(repeat chorus)

The same power that rolled the stone away
The same power alive in us today
King Jesus we call upon Your name, no other name (repeat)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Chris Tomlin, Brett Younker, Kristian Stanfill, Ed Cash ©2015 sixsteps Sonngs, Worship Together, S.D.G. Publishing (Admin Capitol CMG), Alletrop Music (Admin Music Services).ICS.UBP.CCLI#245668

*THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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;
He descended into Hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
and is seated on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from there 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.

(Note: Although not written by the apostles, this creed is a summary of their teachings. Though its origin is traced to the second century, it developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century. For the sake of clarity, please note that we believe that Jesus suffered the agony and punishment of Hell on the cross, most especially when He knew that He had been forsaken by His Father, and that He died a real death from which He was resurrected. We believe also that "holy catholic church" refers to the church universal.)

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
You shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we often find ourselves living
as if he has not risen,
as if we are still enslaved to sin's guilt and power.
In pride we are slow to seek forgiveness;
In selfishness we neglect the needs of others;
In self-righteousness we trust in ourselves.
Forgive us by the death of Christ;
Transform us by the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit;
Enable us to know the joy of new life that is ours
through faith in our risen Lord. Amen.

PRIVATE (A time of silent and private confessions for personal sins)

LEADER: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 1:9-2:2)

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*THE RESPONSIVE READING OF THE GOOD NEW OF JESUS CHRIST: 1Corinthians 15:1-8, 11

LEADER: Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain.

ALL: For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

LEADER: Whether then it was I or they, so we preached and so you believed.

*God is Able

God is able, He will never fail, He is almighty God
Greater than all we seek, greater than all we ask
He has done great things

(chorus)

Lifted up He defeated the grave
Raised to life, our God is able
In His name we overcome
For the Lord our God is able

God is with us, God is on our side, He will make a way
Far above all we know, far above all we hope
He has done great things

(repeat chorus)

(bridge)

God is with us, He will go before,
He will never leave us, He will never leave us
God is for us, He has open arms,
He will never fail us, He will never fail us

(repeat chorus 2x)

For the Lord our God is able
For the Lord our God is able

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*THE READING OF ACTS 2:22-36

*Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King
He the theme of heavens praises, robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment, of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption see the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker ©2013 The Summit Church

*Song of Moses

(chorus)

Praise the Lord, our Mighty Warrior
Praise the Lord, the Glorious One
By His hand we stand in victory,
By His Name we overcome

Oh the Lord, our strength and song, highest praise to Him belongs
Christ the Lord, the Conquering King, Your Name we raise, Your triumphs sing

(repeat chorus)

Though the storms of hell pursue, in darkest night we worship You
You divide the raging sea, from death to life You safely lead

(repeat chorus)

All the saints and angels bow, hosts of heaven crying out
Glory, glory to the King, You reign for all eternity

(repeat chorus)

The Lord shall reign forever and ever
The Lord shall reign forever and ever (4x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Words & Music by Chris Moerman, Ben Smith, Pat Barrett, Aaron Keyes, and Graham Kendrick.
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THE DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Although giving is a significant part of worship, we do not collect the offering during our service. Two boxes are placed by the doors to receive your offering. Tithes and offerings for the General Fund are placed in the box without the "steeple." Offerings for the Building Fund are to be placed in the box with the "steeple," with check payable to Grace EPC Building Fund.

THE WELCOME

At this time, please fill out the friendship register found at the side aisle. As the register is passed, please note those with whom you are worshipping so that you can greet one another after the service. If this is your first Sunday at Grace, please accept our invitation to worship with us again soon. If you would like information about Grace EPC, please take one of our brochures from the table in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home, please let us know and we will be happy to visit with you.

(CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR THEIR CLASSES AT THIS TIME:
K-4TH GRADE — LINE UP IN THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE SANCTUARY.
CONNECT CLASS [5TH & 6TH GRADE] HEAD DIRECTLY TO ROOM 7)

(THOSE WHO ARRIVE AFTER THE SERVICE HAS BEGUN MAY BE SEATED AT THIS TIME)

THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

All: The grass withers and the flower falls,
but the word of the Lord remains forever.

THE MESSAGE FROM SCRIPTURE

Bill Vogler

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

It is our sincere desire to pray effectively for the particular needs of those worshipping with us this morning. If you have a prayer concern that you want shared with the congregation during the prayers of the people, please call the church office or one of the elders prior to the service with your request. If you desire prayer on a personal matter, we invite you to meet with the elders in the front pews after the Benediction.

Available for prayer after 8:45 worship: Joe Harvey & Darby Ritter
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Michael Lemon & Larry Swinson

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*#143 (Lutheran) Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

*Congregation will stand.