

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 21, 2019

*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**

***Resurrection Hymn**
(See What a Morning)

See what a morning gloriously bright
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded the graveclothes, tomb filled with light
As the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,
Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice.
Fulfilled in Christ the Man
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?"
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years,
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
Will sound till He appears,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty,
Honour and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with power and authority!
And we are raised with Him,
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;
And we shall reign with Him,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

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***THE RESPONSIVE READING OF THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST: 1 Corinthians 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.

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 self-righteousness, we can trust in ourselves;
In our pride, we can be slow to seek forgiveness;
In our selfishness, we can neglect the needs of others.
Forgive us through death of Christ;
Transform us through 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)

THE ASSURANCE

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.

*How Marvelous

I stand amazed in the presence, of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me
A sinner condemned unclean

(chorus)

How marvelous, how wonderful, and my song shall ever be
How marvelous, how wonderful is my Savior's love for me

He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them His very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

(repeat chorus)

When with the ransomed in glory, His face I at last shall see
"Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of his love for me

(repeat chorus 2x)

Text & Music: Charles Hutchinson Gabriel (1905) Arrangement: Chris Tomlin.ARR.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.)

*O Praise the Name

I cast my mind to Calvary, where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet, my Savior on that cursed tree
His body bound and drenched in tears, they laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone, Messiah still and all alone

(chorus)

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

And then on the third at break of dawn, the Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death, where is your sting, the angels roar for Christ the King

(repeat chorus)

He shall return in robes of white, the blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints, my gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

(repeat chorus 2x)

Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

***We Will Feast in the House of Zion**

(chorus)

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

(repeat chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

(repeat chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.

(repeat chorus 2x)

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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)

(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

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*Crown Him with Many Crowns / Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne:
Hark! how the heav'nly 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 thru all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love: behold His hands and side
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life: Who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to 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.

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!

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, stanzas 1,2,4; Godfrey Thring, stanza 3 MUSIC: George J. Elvey
/ Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

AFTER SERVICE PRAYER

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: Larry Swinson & Kim Grubbs
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Todd Koch & Michael Boulton

*Congregation will stand.