

4.12.20 EASTER

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**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS****OPENING HYMN**

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“**Christ the Lord is Risen Today**” by Charles Wesley

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!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
 Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
 Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!
 Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!.

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
 Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
 Where thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Easter says to us, we do not go to a cemetery to pay tribute to our beloved Lord, because he is among the living, not the dead!

People: *Praise God for the wonderful experience of that first Easter when Jesus arose from the dead!*

Pastor: Amen! And that experience is just as joyful for us today, because Christ's resurrection is the proof of our resurrection.

People: *Yes, and also because Christ lives within our hearts as our risen Lord.*

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, who has conquered death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ: Hear our praise we offer to you in thanksgiving for the assurance of life eternal, which you have given to us through your Son, who lives within our hearts this very day. In Christ's Holy Name we pray. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & PETITION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN "He Lives" by Alfred H. Ackley

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today.
I know that He is living, whatever people 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, through 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)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear Lord, this day of Resurrection reminds us that we, too, have searched in the wrong places for our Risen Lord. Forgive us for mourning in the shadow of death when we can rejoice over his presence in our lives. Lead us into our community with a convincing witness of the reality of Christ's resurrection in us. In his Holy name we pray. Amen.

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In Christ alone my hope is found
 He is my light, my strength, my song
 This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
 What heights of love, what depths of peace
 When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
 My Comforter, my All in All
 Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh
 Fullness of God in helpless babe
 This gift of love and righteousness
 Scorned by the ones He came to save
 Till on that cross as Jesus died
 The wrath of God was satisfied
 For every sin on Him was laid
 Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
 Light of the world by darkness slain
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day
 Up from the grave He rose again
 And as He stands in victory
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
 For I am His and He is mine
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
 This is the power of Christ in me
 From life's first cry to final breath
 Jesus commands my destiny
 No power of hell, no scheme of man
 Can ever pluck me from His hand
 Till He returns or calls me home
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand
 No power of hell, no scheme of man
 Can ever pluck me from His hand
 Till He returns or calls me home
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

SCRIPTURE John 20:1-18

SERMON “Resurrection Perspective”

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN OF SENDING “Up From the Grave He Arose” by Robert Lowry

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior,
 Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

(Refrain)

Up from the grave He arose,
 With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
 He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
 And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior;
 Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!

(Refrain)

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus, my Savior
 He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!

(Refrain)

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH