

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024 11:15 A.M.
EASTER SUNDAY

GATHERING SONG

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Rev. Jason Christ, Associate Pastor*

WELCOME *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr., Lead Pastor*

(Stand)

OPENING SONG

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Verse 1

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Verse 2

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

Jesus Messiah

Verse 1

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

Verse 3

But the pains which He endured,
Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Verse 4

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Latin Carol, Public Domain

Bridge

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Ending

Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
The Lord of all
The Lord of all

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HISTORY

This hymn was written in Latin during the 14th century and was translated into English about 300 years later. However, it underwent several revisions before it came to be the hymn commonly recognized today, including the addition of its fourth verse by Charles Wesley.

INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father, who gave His Son to conquer death for us.
In the name of the Son, who has burst free from the tomb for us.
In the name of the Spirit, who grants us faith in our Redeemer Jesus.

People Amen. Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

Leader He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of His people He will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. *Isaiah 25:8*

Leader Jesus is risen!

People He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol? Shall I redeem them from Death? O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your sting? *Hosea 13:14*

Leader Jesus is risen!

People He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. *1 Corinthians 15:25-26*

Leader Jesus is risen!

People He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where 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. *1 Corinthians 15:54-57*

People Jesus is risen!

Leader He is risen indeed!

People Alleluia!

CONFESSION

Leader If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:8*

People But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9 (silence for personal confession)*

Leader Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Leader In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

(Sit)

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

Reader God speaks to us through the Old Testament: Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. his is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Reader God speaks to us through the New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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. 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. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Reader God speaks to us through the Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Sue Steege, Director of Transformation Ministry*

MESSAGE *Because He Lives* *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr., Lead Pastor*

(Stand)

NICENE CREED

People I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Sit)

OFFERING Give at FTGives.com, text "Give" to (716) 575-2659.

Scars

Verse 1

Waking up to a new sunrise
Looking back from the other side
I can see now with open eyes
Darkest water and deepest pain
I wouldn't trade it for anything
'Cause my brokenness brought me to You
And these wounds are a story You'll use

Chorus 1

(So) I'm thankful for the scars
'Cause without them I wouldn't know Your heart
And I know they'll always tell of who You are
So forever I am thankful for the scars

Verse 2

Now I'm standing in confidence
With the strength of Your faithfulness
And I'm not who I was before
No I don't have to fear anymore

Bridge

I can see
I can see
How You delivered me
In Your hands
In Your feet
I found my victory

Chorus 2

I'm thankful for Your scars
'Cause without them I wouldn't
know Your heart
And with my life I'll tell
of who You are
So forever I am thankful

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HISTORY

The Nicene Creed first appeared in AD 325 as a response to the Arian heresy. Arians believed Jesus was not truly the Son of God. It emphasized Jesus' deity with phrases like, "begotten, not made". It was later expanded in 381 to include a more complete confession of the Holy Spirit. We use this creed on Communion Sundays.

EASTER OFFERING

Our special Easter offering this year will be going to Camp JOY at Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Buffalo. Camp JOY as played a significant role in the transformation of children with unproductive and unsupervised time into children with real life experience and creative interactivity during and after Camp JOY. The acronym for JOY is Jesus, Others, You. Located just half a mile from the TOPS market, Camp JOY and Lutheran Church of Our Savior provided comfort and stability for children traumatized by the shooting there. Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a sister congregation with First Trinity.

SENDING OF ASIA MISSIONS TEAM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Stand)

PREPARATION FOR LORD'S SUPPER

Leader The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Leader On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, He gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take; eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Leader The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And also with you.**

THE INVITATION

(Sit)

SONGS DURING LORD'S SUPPER

On the Third Day

Verse 1

Creation brings an offering
As autumn leaves turn to gold
The trees bow down in highest praise
Now made bare before Your throne
The western sky an amber blaze
At the end of the day
For ev'rything must die
To rise again

Verse 2

The winter's chill a bitter cold
As sin and shame leave us to fall
The clouds now full of newborn snow
For grace to come and save us all
Within the darkest night of man
Was found Your saving hand
For ev'rything must die
To rise again

Chorus 1

On the third day behold the King
On the third day death has no sting
On the third day we're forgiven and reconciled

O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

Verse 1

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

Verse 2

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

Verse 3

The earth it groans in labor pains
As flowers stretch to heav'n above
Your creatures sing the prophet's song
To be a gift of selfless love
The sun is rising in the east
And Your Spirit is unleashed
For ev'rything must die
To rise again

Verse 4

And so we wait in joyful hope
For You to come and take us home
And so we join beneath the cross
In suffering from whence we go
The greatest act of sov'reign grace
In the universe displayed
For ev'rything must die
To rise again

Chorus 2

On the third day the saints rejoice
On the third day we lift our voice
On the third day
We're united and glorified

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Verse 3

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

Verse 4

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

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In Christ Alone

Verse 1

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

Verse 2

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

Verse 3

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

Verse 4

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

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(Stand)

BLESSING

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Altar Flowers presented to the Glory of God.

EASTER FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Alice Baumgardner
My Mom, Alice Leidich My baby daughter, Jenna
My wonderful father, Max Miller
Carrie Lynn Bryant
Christopher
Rich Lenihan
Rich Gaffney
Dean, Jr. and Zachariah Anthony
Dear friends and family members
Mark Peth and Julie Jean Reid
Edythe N. and John D. Miller
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Neal, Mom, Dad and Michael
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IN THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR

Our many Blessings
Our Family
Our Many Blessings
Children and grandchildren
Godly Parents
Abundant blessings
Our children & grandchildren
Easter
Giving His Son to save us
Our Parents
Easter