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∞ THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD ∞

ORDER OF WORSHIP • APRIL 20, 2025 • 9:00 AM

✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP *From the rear of the Sanctuary*

WL: Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

WL: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God: Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

WL: Sin and death shall reign no more!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

WL: Let this place be filled with song!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

✠ PROCESSIONAL HYMN JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

LBW #151

✠ INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

✠ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. Trusting in God's promise, let us confess our sin.

**All: 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, our risen Lord. Amen.**

WL: Brothers and sisters in Christ, 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! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, all our sins have been forgiven. We are washed clean by the blood of the Lamb and are renewed and restored as the children of God.

**All: This is the feast of victory! Alleluia!**

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE ALLELUIA! with THIS IS THE FEAST

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

WL: Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

JOB 19:23-27

R: The First lesson for this Easter Sunday is from the book of Job, the nineteenth chapter.

“Oh, that my words were recorded,  
that they were written on a scroll,  
that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,  
or engraved in rock forever!  
I know that my redeemer lives,  
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.  
And after my skin has been destroyed,  
yet in my flesh I will see God;  
I myself will see him  
with my own eyes—I, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-57

R: Our Second Lesson is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter.

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "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! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as the handbells ring  
and turn to face the processional cross  
as it moves among us.*

## ✠ GOSPEL PROCESSION

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise him above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## ✠ HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 20:1-18

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ!**

✠ GOSPEL PROCESSION

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise him above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Aleluia!**

# EASTER MESSAGE

*After the Easter message  
please remain seated until the entire assembly sings*

## HYMN BY CHOIR JOY TO THE HEART and CONGREGATION K. LEE SCOTT AND JOHN BENNETT

*Choir: Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes  
Resplendent from the gallows tree  
And what he brings in his hurt hands  
Is life on life for you and me*

*REFRAIN:*

*Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!  
Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!*

*Choir: Good Jesus Christ inside his pain  
Looked down Golgotha's stony slope  
And let the blood flow from his flesh  
To fill the spings of living hope. REFRAIN*

*Choir: Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died  
In darkest hurt upon the tree  
To offer us the worlds of light  
That live inside the Trinity.*

***REFRAIN (all STAND to sing):***

***Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!  
Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!***

**All: Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes  
Resplendent from the gallows tree  
And what he brings in his hurt hands  
Is life on life for you and me. REFRAIN**

*after a short instrumental fanfare,  
ALL SING FINAL REFRAIN*

## ✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

## GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

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## OFFERING HYMN

LORD OF THE DANCE

HANDBELLS AND CONGREGATION

*Cantor and handbells:*

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun*

*I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun*

*I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth*

*At Bethlehem I had my birth*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be*

*I am the lord of the dance, said he*

*And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be*

*And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he*

**ALL SING: I danced for the scribes and the Pharisees  
They wouldn't dance, they wouldn't follow me  
I danced for the fishermen James and John  
They came with me and the dance went on**

**REFRAIN:** Dance, then, wherever you may be  
I am the lord of the dance, said he  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he

*Cantor alone:*

*I danced on a Friday when the world turned black  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back  
They buried my body and they thought I was gone  
But I am the dance, and I still go on*

**ALL SING REFRAIN:** Dance, then, wherever you may be . . .

They cut me down and I leapt up high  
I am the life that'll never, never die  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he

**FINAL REFRAIN:** Dance, then, wherever you may be . . .

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### ✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WL: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise you on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb, who bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. With all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we give all glory, honor, and worship to you—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### ✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

## ✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, so we pray together:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

## ✠ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### HYMN

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

LBW #352

## ✠ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ CHARGE & BLESSING

*based on Psalm 121:5-8*

WL: Now may the truth of the empty tomb—the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection—keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you, ✠ this day and always.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ RECESSIONAL ANTHEM

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

G. F. HANDEL

## ✠ SENDING

WL: Christ is risen!

All: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Risen Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

# TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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### JOY TO THE HEART

Music: K. Lee Scott; Text: John Bennett

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