Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

April 12, 2020

**Hidden with Christ**

Easter turns the world upside down. It defies our expectations with hiddenness and bluntness: Mary does not recognize the resurrected Jesus (John 20:14), the good news is heralded by an earthquake and terrifying angels and is brought to the women of the church first, rather than to the Twelve (Matt. 28:1-10). The radical reversals prophesied in scripture and revealed in Christ’s life and ministry culminate in the good news we proclaim today: Christ, through death, has triumphed over death. “The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone” (Ps. 118:22).

Easter offers the mystical possibility of transformation in every moment. In this season, what is dying and what is being born? For our communities? For our families? For our world? What is breaking open like a seed to die (John 12:24) so that new life might thrive?

On this Easter day, we are honest about how God is stirring us to transformation, and we may be called to faithfully lament the letting go. Almost simultaneously, as we embody Christ’s resurrection in the present, we celebrate it with great joy (Matt. 28:8). In our desire to be hidden in Christ’s abundant life (John 10:10), we can even name seasons of suffering as Christ’s resurrection emerging (Phil. 3:10).
Gathering

As you prepare for worship, you may wish to include a plant or fresh flowers and a small bowl for water.

Welcome

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia

Prelude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

Arr. Flor Peeters

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Water may be poured into the font before or during the thanksgiving. At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Just as God’s work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: For water from our tap, for rain and snow, for the Des Plaines River, the Salt Creek, Lake Michigan. We give you thanks, O God, for the waters in this place.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman’s thirst with living water.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for those newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus’ death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.
Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today, ELW 365

1 Jesus Christ is ris’n to-day, Alleluia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav’n-ly king, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
now above the sky he’s king, Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav’n-ly host, Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.
God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Word

Children’s Message

Reading  
Colossians 3:1-4

1If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation
The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” 8So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Sermon

The Rev. Richard Johnson

Prayers of Intercession

*As we begin our prayers, together, we sing or speak this prayer response:*

```music
Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
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peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.

```music
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.
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*Text and music: Paul Andress, b. 1956
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*After each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
We continue to hold in prayer:
Our bishops, Elizabeth Eaton and the ELCA Churchwide staff;
Yehiel Curry, and the Metropolitan Chicago Synod staff
Missionaries throughout the world especially Pr. Mawien Ariik and
Pr. Wal Luot Reat in South Sudan; and Pr. Alex LaChapelle in Nairobi,
whom we support
Our ecumenical brothers and sisters in the countries of
Belarus, Moldovia, Russia, Ukraine
Our community of faith, especially our pastors and staff, leadership and
volunteers.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we
commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

After the final petition, the assembly repeats “Hear Our Prayer.”

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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. Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now
and forever. Amen.

Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be with you now and forever.

And also with you.

Sending

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you
with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.
Sending Hymn

Thine is the Glory, ELW 376

1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the
2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic'try thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment
greets thee, scatters fear and gloom; let his church with gladness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'rors,

rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes
hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth;
through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan

Refrain

where thy body lay, death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring
to thy home above.

Postlude

I Know that My Redeemer Lives!

arr. John A. Behnke

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
Acknowledgements


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