## Easter Sunday April 9, 2023

# Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Mason

Flute Duet—Bob Carpency/Pamela Johnson

#### **Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (Time for Silent Preparation)

#### Call to Worship (Responsively)

Jim Fox

This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

### Hallelujah!

This is the good news—
the light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never put it out.

#### Hallelujah!

This is the good news once we were no people; now we are God's people.

#### Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

#### Hallelujah!

# **∮** Invocation

Jim Fox

Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty; you gave birth to all that we know. Hallowed be your name. Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a manger announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us. Hallowed be your name. Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God:

You shouldered and suffered the cross. Hallowed be your name. Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and executed you. Hallowed be your name. This morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us, and your redemption of all creation! Hallowed be God's name, now and forever. Amen.

**∮** Hymn 217

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

# Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

#### Prayer of Confession (Responsively)

Jim Fox

If, at times, we deny you, God forgive. When the risks of discipleship are high, and we are nowhere to be found:

### God forgive.

When we wash our hands of responsibility:

#### God forgive.

When we cast our lot with powerful oppressors and seek to buy freedom with silver:

#### God forgive.

When fear keeps us from witnessing to your truth, or prejudice keeps us from believing it:

#### God forgive.

In the bright light of Easter morning, O God, our sin is exposed, and your grace is revealed.

Tender God,

raise us in your love so that, with joy, we may witness to your awesome deeds, in the name of Jesus, the risen one. Amen.

#### **Time for Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Jim Fox

"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, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

# Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end. A-men, A-men.

# Offering Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

**Invitation** As we come before God with our tithes and offerings,

let us remember the words of Micah 6: What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Thus we bring our money, gifts, and whole lives as an offering to our God.

Offering

Offertory Because He Lives

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

# Praise Song In Christ Alone

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 schemes 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!

## Prayer of Dedication

Good Shepherd, you spread a table before us. We offer you our gifts, signs of your gracious love and tokens of our grateful hearts. Nourish us at the feast of the Lamb, that we may proclaim to all the world your triumphant love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **CANTATA**

The Power of the Cross
K. Getty, S. Townend, D. Hamilton, P. Johnson
Prologue – Surely He Has Borne Our Griefs

"Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not." (Isaiah 53:1-3)

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:4-5) "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6)

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:4-5)

#### **Gethsemane Hymn**

To see the King of heaven fall in anguish to His knees; The Light and Hope of all the world now overwhelmed with grief. What nameless horrors must He see to cry out in the garden, "Oh take this cup away from Me, yet not My will, but Yours, yet not My will, but Yours.

To know each friend will fall away, and heaven's voice be still; For hell to have its vengeful day upon Golgotha's hill. No words describe the Savior's plight to be by God forsaken, "Til wrath and love are satisfied, and ev'ry sin is paid, and ev'ry sin is paid.

What took Him to this wretched place? What kept Him on this road? His love for Adam's cursed race, for ev'ry broken soul. No sin too slight to overlook, no crime too great to carry; All mingled in this poisoned cup, and yet He drank it all, the Savior drank it all.

All mingled in this poisoned cup, and yet He drank it all. The Savior drank it all.

#### The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day; Christ on the road to Calvary; Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then Nailed to a cross of wood. This the pow'r of the cross Christ became sin for us Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, Bearing the awesome weight of sin; Ev'ry bitter tho't, ev'ry evil deed Crowning Your blood-stained brow. This the pow'r of the cross Christ became sin for us Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees; Now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life.
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry.
This the pow'r of the cross

Christ became sin for us Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, For through Your suffering I am free. Death is crushed to death, Life is mine to live, Won through Your selfless love! This the pow'r of the cross Son of God slain for us, What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.

### When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross On which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet. Sorrow and love flow mingled down; Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Demands my soul, my life, my all!

#### Christ Is Risen, He is Risen Indeed

How can it be the One who died has borne our sin in sacrifice, to conquer ev'ry sting of death? Sing, sing hallelujah!

For joy awakes as dawning light when Christ's disciples lift their eyes. Alive He stands, their Friend and King. Sing, sing hallelujah!

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah! Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed; Christ is risen, He's risen indeed! Where doubt and darkness once had been, they saw Him and their hearts believed, But blessed are those who have not seen, Yet sing hallelujah!

Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, They preached the truth and pow'r of grace, And pouring out their lives they gained Life, life everlasting!

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah! Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed; Christ is risen, He's risen indeed!

The pow'r that raised Him from the grave Now works in us to pow'r f'lly save; He frees our hearts to live His grace, Go, tell of His good ness!

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!
Oh, sing hallelujah!
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed;
Christ is risen, He's risen indeed!

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah! Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed; Christ is risen, He's risen indeed!

#### <u>Proclaiming</u> God speaks to us through His Word

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

### Scripture Reading Mark 16:1-8

**16** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they could go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb at sunrise. <sup>3</sup> They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb for us?" <sup>4</sup> Looking up, they noticed that the stone—which was very large—had been rolled away.

<sup>5</sup> When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side; they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> "Don't be alarmed," he told them. "You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they put him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee; you will see him there just as he told you.""

<sup>8</sup> They went out and ran from the tomb, because trembling and astonishment overwhelmed them. And they said nothing to anyone, since they were afraid.

Sermon "Overwhelmed" Rev. Tim Latham

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<u>Commissioning</u>
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 228 Rejoice the Lord is King

Benediction & Blessing

This morning's Prayer Partners are Carolyn Thompson, Chuck Stauffer