

**2nd Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023 Worship Bulletin**

Gathering for God's Word

Prelude

*Welcome & Passing the Peace of Christ

*Song of Praise

#2088, "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us
You came from heaven to earth to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

Words & Music: Rick Founds

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Announcements

Time of Silence & Ringing the Bell

Preparing for God's Word

*Call to Worship

[inspired by Luke 1:78-79; John 1:4-5; John 11:25]

Leader: Come to me, all you who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death! On you the light has shone!

**People: For Jesus Christ is the light of the world; the light shines in the
darkness and the darkness could not put it out!**

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. I am the bright and morning
star."

**People: We join with the angels in their hymns of praise; Glory to God in the
highest and on earth peace, Alleluia!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

*Hymn of Adoration

#267, "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice:
Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend,
To us he'll condescend;
His love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again;
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore,
His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore,
"Alleluia! Amen!"

Text: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843

Music: Spanish folk melody, arr. Benjamin Carr, 1824; harm, David Evans 1927

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Prayer of Confession

[Based on Psalm 51: 10-12]

Leader: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy this morning. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We do not always do justice, love kindness, or walk humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

People: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the Good News! In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal.

People: Through Christ, God forgives, God sets us free, and God transforms our hearts. This is truly a gracious gift from God. Praise be the Lord.

Hearing God's Word

Children's Message

Ages 12 and under gather up front as congregation sings, #188, "Jesus Loves Me."
After the Children's Message, the children may return to sit with their families.

Hymn of Preparation

#2150, "Lord, be Glorified," vs. 1, 3, 4

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified!
In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified today.
In Your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified!
In Your church, be glorified, be glorified today.

In Your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified!
In Your world, Lord, be glorified today

Words & Music: Bob Kilpatrick

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Prayer of Illumination

New Testament Reading: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

22 "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. 25 David said about him: 'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'"

29 “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.”

Sermon

“Mission Impossible”

Responding to God’s Word

*Affirmation of Faith

[The Apostle’s 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Anthem

“Easter Medley,” Anthem Lights

*Response

#606, The Doxology, “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn of Response

#835, "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," vs. 1, 2

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee

Thro' this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

Text & Music: Trad. North American hymn
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*Benediction

*Benediction Response

#2069, "All Hail King Jesus," Sing the Faith Hymnal

All hail King Jesus
All hail Emmanuel
King of Kings
Lord of Lords
Bright Morning Star
And throughout eternity
I'll sing Your praises
And I'll reign with You throughout eternity

Words & Music: Dave Moody
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*Postlude

*Please Stand if Able