

WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION *of* THE LORD

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

MARCH 31, 2024

7:30 A.M.



UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Easter Morning Medley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to Mary, and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN



1. Morn - ing has bro - ken, like the first morn - ing. Black - bird has spo -
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first dew -
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the one



ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing, praise for the
fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing, Praise for them spring - ing fresh from the word.
gar - den, spring in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 28:1-10

A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church

Psalms 9:1-2, 7-11, 13-14

ANTHEM

Cuan Grande es El / How Great Thou Art

Trad. Swedish Melody, O STORE GUD
Spanish trans., Arturo Hotton-Rives

- O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:
Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!
- When through the wood and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: (*Refrain*)
- And when I think that God, his Song not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross,
my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin: (*Refrain*)
- When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" (*Refrain*)

***AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. 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 Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Trusting in the grace of God, we renounce evil and its power in the world, and seek to dismantle the systems and structures of oppression that disfigure God's good creation.

We put our faith in God's love and justice.

We put our hope in the love of Christ Jesus and trust that life in Christ means that death is not defeat.

We put our hope in the Living God.

We remember that God loves us as we are and that the humanity of Jesus welcomes our truth and authenticity.

We always remember God's love for all Creation.

We devote ourselves to the community of the church, praising God in worship, serving our neighbors in compassionate ministries of care, and reaching out to touch the world with the love of Christ.

We will seek to love the world as God loves us.

How do we summarize the law and the prophets?

We are called to love God with our whole heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. There is no greater law than this.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this water, that this font may be your womb of new birth. May all who pass through these waters be delivered from death to life, from bondage to freedom, from sin to righteousness. Bind them to the household of faith and guard them from all evil. Strengthen them to serve you with joy until the day you make all things new. Amen.

***HYMN**

Now the Green Blade Rises

NOËL NOUVELET



1. Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain;
 2. In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
 3. Christ came forth at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
 4. When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



Wheat that in dark earth for man - y days has lain;
 Think - ing that their Love would nev - er wake a - gain.
 Je - sus, who for three days in the grave had lain.
 Christ's warm touch can call us back to life a - gain.



Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
 Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
 Quick from the dead the ris - en One is seen:
 Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Refrain



Love is come a - gain like wheat that ris - es green.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Living God, Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. And 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, for ever. Amen.

*HYMN OF BLESSING

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ri - sen Lord.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to Christ's name. *Fine*



1. Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3. We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4. Come let us praise the liv - ing God,



to Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for - ev - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on Easter Hymn

SERVICE NOTES

MUSICIANS: Bianca Muñoz, Natalia Furman-Felix, voice; Andrés Santos, violin and voice; Julie Mitchell, piano.

COVER ART: *Mourning Light* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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