

EASTER SUNRISE

6:30 A.M.

THE GREETING

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader- Christ is risen from the dead, and lives among us - bringing hope and joy and new life to all who believe in Him.

People- We rejoice because we have been raised to new life with Christ.

Leader- Such life is full of joy because we put to death the earthly desires which contradict God's will, and become new persons in Christ.

People- Christ is our life! We commit ourselves to resurrection living as we put off our sinful natures and put on that which makes us new creations of Christ.

THE HYMN "In Christ Alone"

1. 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.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fulness 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.

3. 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.

4. 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 scheme 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.

THE COLLECT (in unison)

Eternal God, our Father, who has reached down to humanity in our sin with the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord: raise us to new life, that turning from our sinfulness, we may enjoy the blessings of resurrection living, both now and forevermore, through the power of Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

THE EASTER MEDITATION "If Not In The Tomb – Where? Duh – He Ain't Here!"

A TIME OF PRAYER

A RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS

Leader- Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing to the Lord, all the world!

People- Sing to the Lord, and praise Him! Proclaim every day the Good News that He has saved us.

Leader- Proclaim His glory to the nations, His mighty acts to all peoples.

People- Praise the Lord, all people on earth; praise His glory and might.

Leader- God our Father has conquered the power of sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. Thus He has given us new hope. Pray that God will fill us today with His Spirit that our celebration might renew us in the living of Christian life.

People- We will bow down before the holy One when He appears. The whole world will tremble before Him. We will sing to the Lord and praise Him. Amen.

THE HYMN "Living Hope"

1. How great the chasm that lay between us, how high the mountains I could not climb
In desperation I turned to Heaven and spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness tore through the shadows of my soul
That work is finished the end is written, Jesus Christ my living hope.

2. Who could imagine so great a mercy, what heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory, to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven, the King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

CHORUS

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain, there's salvation in Your name,
Jesus Christ, my living hope (repeat at end)

3. Then came the morning that sealed the promise, Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion, declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus Yours is the victory!

THE RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Pastor- Through the resurrection of Christ you are now God's children. Walk from this place with joy in your hearts.

People- Amen. Thanks be to God for the joy of resurrection to new life in Christ.

Pastor- You are redeemed and set free. Walk from this place as a people of hope.

People- Amen. Thanks be to God for the hope of life eternal in Heaven.

Pastor- Your faith has allowed you to rise with Him in baptism. Walk from here and live holy and Spirit-filled lives.

People- With the love of God the Father, the grace and peace of Jesus His only Son, and with the fellowship of the Holy Spirit we will walk forth into the world with the power and name above all names. May God bless us to His keeping. Amen, and Amen.

Our celebration of the resurrection will continue with services at 8:30am and 10:30am...

