

Easter

April 16, 2017

10:30 AM

*We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.
As you enter the sanctuary, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.
Please turn off your cell phone and turn your thoughts toward God.*

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" *John 11:25, 26*

Prelude

Thy Name We Bless

arr. Lovelace

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord, Alleluia, And sing today with one accord...The life laid down, The life restored...Praise we in songs of victory...That love, that life which cannot die...And sing with hearts uplifted high...Christ is risen from the dead!...From the tomb, just as he said!...Raise your voices loud and clear!...Sing for joy, that all may hear!...Jesus Christ, our Saviour, Alleluia!

Melanie Avery, Soprano
Mrs. Gloria Hague, Director of Music

We praise our great God

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

I am He that lives, and was dead, says the Lord, and behold, I am alive forevermore.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is meet and right so to do.

*Hymn No. 277

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Lyra Davidica

"Christ the Lords is ris'n today," Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids his rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has lead, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head; Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise; Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n; Alleluia!

Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

*Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Confession of Sin (unison)

O Almighty God, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus; we acknowledge that we are unworthy of your redeeming grace. We have not believed your promises, nor trusted in our living Lord. Through the worldliness of our spirit, our eyes have been blinded so that we have not discerned your presence with us. Through disappointment of mind and dejection of spirit, our hearts have not burned within us as we have heard His Word. We have not trusted in His redeeming power, and have been overcome by evil. We have forgotten the glad tidings of His victory over death, and have not known the things that belong to our peace. But now in penitence we come to you, begging your forgiveness. Mercifully grant us cleansing from all our sins, and restore unto us the joy of your salvation. For Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate and our living Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

1 Corinthians 15 (selected)

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ will all be made alive.

*Confession of Faith (unison)

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 52

How was Christ exalted in His resurrection? **Christ was exalted in His resurrection, in that, not having seen corruption in death...He rose again from the dead the third day by His own power; whereby He declared Himself to be the Son of God, to have satisfied divine justice, to have vanquished death, and him that had the power of it, and to be Lord of [the] quick and dead: all which He did as a public person, the head of His Church, for their justification, quickening in grace, support against enemies, and to assure them of their resurrection from the dead at the last day.**

*Hymn No. 267

The Day of Resurrection

Lancashire

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from this world to the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
And listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, let earth her song begin;
Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein;
Invisible and visible, their notes let all things blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (in unison)

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

**The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731)* and Prayer of Dedication

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory

*Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound*G. F. Handel
The Adult Choir

Awake the trumpet's lofty sound... Let joyful songs of praise to Heav'n resound, For Christ, the Lord of Heav'n and earth, For Christ, the Lord, is crown'd. Let joyful songs of praise to Heav'n resound. Awake, Let joyful songs of praise to Heav'n resound.

Musical Interlude

After the Offertory, children grades 1-4 may recess for Children's Church through the side door, or may remain with their families.

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

John 11:1-43

(Pew Bible pg. 760)

The Death of Lazarus

11 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."
⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Jesus Weeps

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus

saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved (indignant) in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Sermon

"An Empty Tomb"

Pastor Bell

We respond to God's grace

*Hymn No. 706

Jesus Lives, and So Shall I

Crüger

Jesus lives, and so shall I. Death! thy sting is gone forever!
He who deigned for me to die, lives, the bands of death to sever.
He shall raise me from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives, and reigns supreme; and, his kingdom still remaining,
I shall also be with him, ever living, ever reigning.
God has promised; be it must: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict'ry o'er my passions giving,
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living.
Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives! I know full well naught from him my heart can sever,
life nor death nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, henceforth forever.
None of all his saints is lost: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is the Christian's trust.

*Benediction and Three-Fold *Amen* (*Hymnal*, pg. 740)

Danish

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Postlude

Rondeau

Mouret
Organ and Piano Duet

*Those who are able, please stand.

Our thanks to Melanie Avery, Soprano; Andrew Meade, Trumpet; Jonna Dwyer, Trumpet; Grace Liu, Piano; and Aldo Rivera, Timpani for their musical contributions to our service today.

Our Easter Offering will go to our denomination's *Compassion Fund*. This fund enables us to respond quickly to crises that touch our missionaries and their communities around the world. Urgent needs are met with medical and construction assistance, food and shelter for displaced families, and personal care and counseling for victims of natural disasters. Whatever the situation, your gifts are connected to a Mission to

the World church-planting effort. Use the “Easter” envelope from your envelope box or mark a pink pew envelope “Easter” for your special gift to this ministry. Thanks.

Tomorrow, April 17th is the last day to sign up for the youth group trip to the Oriole game on April 24th. The cost is \$20. See Pastor Ceselsky!

A **National Day of Prayer** event will be held at Beachmont on **May 4** from **11AM-12PM**. We are hoping to gather together private schools, homeschool families, and anyone who is able to make it to pray for our country. We will be praying for government, police, families, military, first responders, businesses, education, etc. We hope that you will join us. prayer.

This Week at Aisquith

TODAY	10:30 AM Worship Children’s Church (grades 1-4) No Youth Activities tonight!
TUESDAY	10:30 AM Ladies’ Bible Study (church library) 10:30 AM Men’s Bible Study 7:00 PM Ladies’ Bible Study (church library) 7:30 PM Session Meeting
WEDNESDAY	7:30 PM Youth Bible Study (John’s office)
THURSDAY	7:30 PM Adult Choir practice
NEXT SUNDAY	9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship No Youth Activities tonight!

Coming Soon

- Mission’s Sunday with the Angerts May 7th (luncheon to follow)**
- Saturday, June 24th Impact Yard Sale**
- July 21-30th Impact trip to Peru with our missionaries the Rockwells**
- Sunday, August 20th Impact Pot Luck Supper**