

Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.
You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!
For your dew is a dew of light,
and the earth will give birth to the dead.

Isaiah 26:19

It is the day of resurrection and an auspicious beginning. Let us be made brilliant by the feast and embrace each other. Let us call brothers even those who hate us, and much more those who have done or suffered anything out of love for us. Let us concede all things to the resurrection.

Gregory of Nazianzus (c. 329-390 A.D.)



ASCENSION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • APRIL 4, 2021
EASTER SUNDAY


THE WORD


CALL TO WORSHIP • Ephesians 5:14

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Text: Charles Wesley • Music: Easter Hymn • Public Domain

Alto

Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day Al - - - le -
lu - ia! sons of men and an - gels say
Al - - - le - lu - ia! raise your joys and
tri - umphs high; Al - - - le - lu - ia!
sing ye heavn's and earth re - ply. Al - - - le -
lu - ia!

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The music is in a major key. The lyrics are: 'Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day Al - - - le - lu - ia! sons of men and an - gels say Al - - - le - lu - ia! raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Al - - - le - lu - ia! sing ye heavn's and earth re - ply. Al - - - le - lu - ia!'.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!
Christ hath 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 hath led, 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!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Romans 1:18

The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Holy Father, Son, and Spirit,
we have lived in open rebellion
against your gracious rule.*

*Please, Lord Jesus, may we find
our redemption in your passion,
the absolution of our guilt in your condemnation,
the cancellation of our curse in your cross,
the satisfaction for our sins in your sacrifice,
our purification in your blood,
reconciliation to God in your descent into hell,
the death of our flesh in your tomb,
immortality in your resurrection,
our inheritance in your ascension.*

We believe, Lord. Help our unbelief. Amen.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Romans 4:3, 23–25

What does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”... But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Proverbs 3:9–10

Honor the LORD with your wealth
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise him, all creatures here below!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

GOSPEL READING • John 20:1-18

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray...

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as the King of kings and the Lord of lords:
We pray for our leaders, near and far, that they might love justice and mercy; we pray for our local leaders, that they might promote the peace of the city.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death in triumph over evil and oppression:
We ask you to restrain the wickedness in our city by your Law; we ask you to destroy the wickedness in our own hearts by your Spirit.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as the Prince of peace:
We pray for peace between nations in your world; we pray that this congregation might live in your peace together; we ask you to come again soon to fully establish your peace on earth.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death to reconcile us to God:
We pray for our friends who do not yet know you; we pray for the deepening of our faith in the Gospel of grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death to reveal life and immortality through the gospel:
We pray for comfort for those who are suffering in grief, in poverty, in sickness, and in injustice.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from death as our sympathetic High Priest:
Please hear us as we bring you our requests. (Silent prayer)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray now in the words you taught us:
*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 forever. Amen.*

Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

Text: Martin Luther • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for
It was a strange and dread - ful strife when
Here the true pas - chal Lamb we see, whom
So let us keep the fes - ti - val to
Then let us feast this ho - ly day on

3
our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right
life and death con - tend - ed. The vic - tor - y re -
God so free - ly gave us. He died on the ac -
which the Lord in - vites us. Christ is Him - self the
6
Christ, the bread of hea - ven. The Word of grace has

hand He stands and brings us life from heav - en.
mained with life; the reign of death was end - ed.
curs - ed tree, so strong His love to save us.
joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.
9
purged a - way the old and e - vil leav - en.

There - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to God right
Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says His death has swal - lowed
See His blood now marks our door; faith points to it death
Now His grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine
12
Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our meat and

thank - ful - ly loud songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
up our death; its sting is lost for - ev - er.
pass - es o'er, and Sa - tan can - not harm us.
to our hearts; the night of sin is end - ed.
17
drink in - deed; Faith lives u - pon no oth - er!

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
23
lu - ia!

In Jesus Christ Is Eternal Life

Easter Text: Tim Sauerwein

Music: "Only in God," by John Michael Talbot © 1980 Birdwing Music / BMI Songs

C G/B Am G F G



1. In Jes - us Christ is e - ter - nal life, in Him is life for -
2. Jes - us Christ is the Lamb of God, to for - give my sin for -

7 C G/B Am G



- ev - er. His life is the light of men; it
- ev - er. That His work was com - plet - ed for me shines

13 F G C F



shines out in the dark - ness. He is ris - en! He is
out in res - ur - rec - tion.

19 Am F G Am F



ris - en! God has raised him from the dead! He is ris - en!

26 Am F G C C



He is ris - en! He is ris'n in deed 3. In Jes - us

34 G/B Am G F G C



Christ is e - tern - nal life; in Him is life for - ev - er.

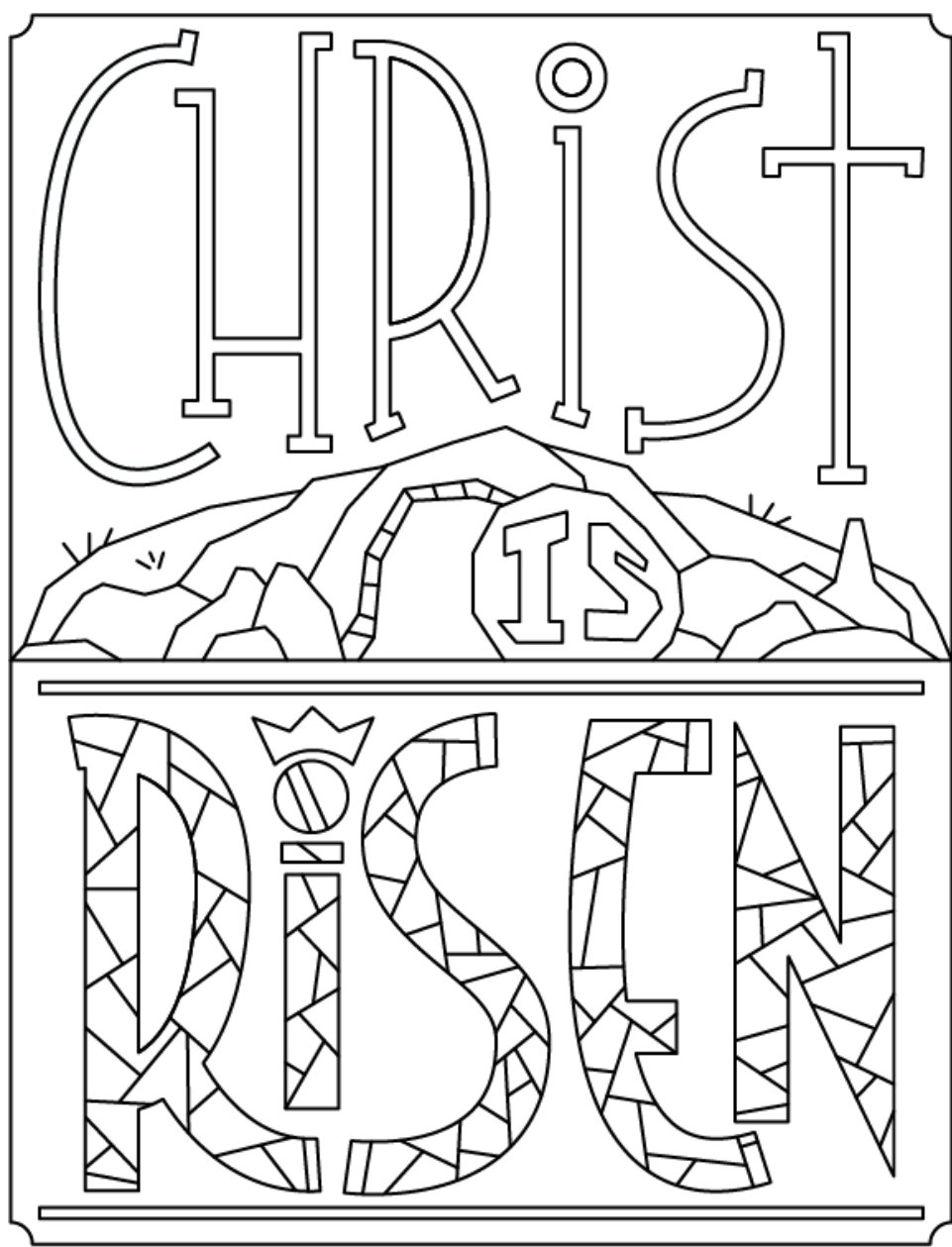
OLD TESTAMENT READING • Song of Solomon 8:6-7

- 6 Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death,
jealousy is fierce as the grave.
Its flashes are flashes of fire,
the very flame of the LORD.
- 7 Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.
If a man offered for love
all the wealth of his house,
he would be utterly despised.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Love Is Strong As Death” (Rev. Eric Costa)





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE • Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

(Greet one another with the words, “*The peace of Christ be with you.*”)

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE MYSTERIUM FIDEI • 1 Corinthians 11:26; 5:7-8

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after the musicians. The glasses on your right contain grape juice for those who do not want wine. There are gluten-free crackers on the table. An Elder is available for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

I Rise

Text & Music • Charlie Shaw (2015)

Adapted from "The Breastplate of Saint Patrick" (traditional)

I rise today for the purposes of love
for the the stronger shield of faith
for the rock that holds us strong

I rise today for the furtherance of justice
for the expanse of kingdom peace
for the practices of mercy

I will rise, I will rise
in the power of the Three
for the glory of the One
I will rise, I will rise
in the service of the King
for the worship of the Lord
I will rise

I rise today for to listen to your voice
for the truth that you've revealed
for the word that cuts and heals

I rise today for the message we proclaim
for the nations you've inherited
for lost souls you've called and named

I will rise, I will rise,
in the power of the Three
for the glory of the One
I will rise, I will rise
in the service of the King
for the worship of the Lord
I will rise

Christ before me; Christ behind me
Christ beside me; Christ my Lord
Christ above me; Christ around me
Christ abide in me; Christ my Lord

I will rise, I will rise
in the power of the Three
for the glory of the One
I will rise, I will rise
in the service of the King
for the worship of the Lord
I will rise

I rise today
in the power of the Three
for the glory of the One
in the service of the King

Easter Praise

Text: Christian F. Gellert ("Jesus Lives And So Shall I"), Edward H. Plumtree ("Rejoice In Christ Your King"), Tim Sauerwein

Music: Matthew Curl • Used by Permission

1. Jes - us lives, and so shall I, death, thy sting is gone for - ev - er.
2. Jes - us lives, and reigns su - preme; and, His king - dom still re - main - ing,
3. Jes - us lives and death is now but my en - trance in - to glor - y.

5
He who deigned for me to die, lives, the bands of death to sev - er.
I shall al - so be with Him, ev - er liv - ing, ev - er reign - ing.
9 Cour - age, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life be - fore thee;

14
He shall raise me from the dust; Jes - us is my hope and trust! — He
God has prom - ised, be it must
14 thou shalt find thy hopes were just;

21
lives! He lives! Jes - us lives! He lives! He lives! and so shall
21 I!

27
4. Our Sav - ior is a - live! He lives for - ev - er -
5. For us He went to death, to pay for all our
6. The Word be - came a man, and brings e - ter - nal
7. Then who be - lieves in Christ, will live al - though he

32
- more! Let all His child - ren sing for joy, and wor - ship and a - dore! Re -
sin; Yet by the Ho - ly Spir - it's pow'r our Sav - ior lives a - gain.
life; Our Sav - ior Jes - us is the res - ur - rec - tion and the life.
32 dies, and he who lives and trusts in Him will nev - er die a - gain.

37
- joice, re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Re
37
joice, re - joice! Re joice, give thanks, and sing!

BENEDICTION • 2 Corinthians 13:11, 14

Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you... The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

~

For Those Joining Us In Person... Greetings! We hope that as many people as possible will feel comfortable joining us for Worship. So we're asking everyone to wear a mask and observe "social distancing" (6ft) between households during Worship. During Communion, parents, please distribute the bread and cup to participating children.

For Those Joining Us On Zoom... Please remain "muted" throughout the service, but feel free to "unmute" afterwards and catch up with each other. (You can find each Sunday's liturgy posted online at ascensionpc.org/worship.)

Easter Picnic • Today after Worship (depending on the weather). Bring a lunch for yourself and join us outside at Tim & Sara Serys' home (17290 SW Seiffert Road, Scholls).

Coffee Hospitality • We'd like to have someone pour and serve coffee after Worship each Sunday. If you'd like to join the rotation to help with this, contact Holly Elliott (nerdymomma@gmail.com).

Women's Study • Connect on Zoom at 7pm on Mondays to study 1 John together. Contact Jerilee Costa (jerilee.costa@gmail.com).

Men's Breakfast • 7:30am Sat., May 1 at Rob Stevenson's home (5037 NE Stable Court, Hillsboro).

Summer Campout • Fri., Aug. 20 - Sun., Aug. 22 at Beverly Beach State Park. Camp sites are limited! Register with Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com).

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PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.com)

Rev. Drew Burdette, Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org) at Oregon State

Brian & Faith Janssen, Missionaries in Taiwan with OMF (omf.org/asia/taiwan)

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-----> **(Drop this contact card in the offering, or hand it to the Pastor.)**

Name(s)

Email / Phone

I am a visitor.

I want to know more about being a Christian.

I would like to get coffee with the Pastor.

Please send me the email newsletter.

Please use this info for the photo directory.