

EASTER SUNDAY | *Easter celebrates history's most important event: the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Christian faith hinges on this reality. It is the moment when Jesus stands in victory over the power of sin and puts death to death, robbing it of its final word. When Christ rises from the tomb, it is more than a sensational demonstration of his singular power; it is the inauguration of a new reality for all who are raised with him — an eternal life of blessed peace with God. This is why Easter Sunday — indeed, Resurrection Sunday! — is our most joyous, hopeful occasion.*

prelude

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

preparing our hearts

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

— 1 Peter 1:3 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

All: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

** Please stand if you are able

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

“Christ the Lord is risen today,” Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Alleluia! Sing ye heavens, 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 led, Alleluia! Following 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 heaven! Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be given: Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now: Alleluia! Hail the resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: EASTER HYMN. Public Domain.

**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**** affirmation of faith**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
The Creator of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic Church*,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

* Here, "catholic" means "universal," and refers to the Christian church in all places

I WILL GLORY IN MY REDEEMER

I will glory in my Redeemer, whose priceless blood has ransomed me.
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails and hung him on that judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who crushed the power of sin and death;
My only Savior before the Holy Judge:
The Lamb who is my righteousness; the Lamb who is my righteousness.

I will glory in my Redeemer; my life he bought, my love he owns.
I have no longings for another; I'm satisfied in him alone.
I will glory in my Redeemer; his faithfulness my standing place.
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me,
My feet are firm, held by his grace; my feet are firm, held by his grace.

I will glory in my Redeemer, who carries me on eagle's wings.
He crowns my life with lovingkindness; his triumph song I'll ever sing.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who waits for me at gates of gold;
And when he calls me, it will be paradise —
His face forever to behold; his face forever to behold.

"I Will Glory in My Redeemer," Words & Music: Steve Cook & Vikki Cook.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it!
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD, for he comes,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness,
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

— Psalm 96:11-13 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,
You shattered the power of sin and death.
Even so, we have forgotten that great freedom,
And have instead submitted again to the yoke of slavery,
Falling into the snare of sin,
Trying to climb out by our own futile effort.
O God, who for our redemption
Submitted your precious Son unto death on the cross, forgive us.
By his glorious resurrection, you delivered us from the power of sin:
Grant us so to die daily to ourselves, that we may evermore live with him
In the joy and freedom of his resurrection;
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen.**

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

All: **This is love: Not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Thanks be to God!**

— Based on 1 John 4:9-10 NIV

A DEBTOR TO MERCY ALONE

A debt - or to mer - cy a - lone, of
The work which your good - ness be - gan, the
My name from the palms of your hands, e -

cov - e - nant mer - cy I sing, I come with your right - eous - ness
arm of your strength will com - plete. Your prom - ise is yes and a -
ter - ni - ty will not e - rise. Im - pressed on your heart it re -

on, my hum - ble of - f'ring to bring, The
men, and nev - er was for - feit - ed yet, The
mains in marks of in - del - i - ble grace, Yes

judg - ments of your ho - ly law with me can have noth - ing to
fu - ture or things that are now, no pow - er be - low or a -
I, to the end, will en - dure, un - til I bow down at your

do, My Sav - ior's o - be - dience and blood hide all my trans -
bove, can make you your pur - pose fore - go, or sev - er my
throne, For - ev - er and al - ways se - cure, a debt - or to

gres - sions from view,
soul from your love,
mer - cy a lone.

“A Debtor to Mercy Alone,” Words: A. M. Toplady and Bob Kauflin; Music: Bob Kauflin.

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Leader: Romans 8:31-39
This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

prayer

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

**** passing the peace**

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

An elder will lead the passing of the peace. If you are joining us from your home, please unmute yourself so that you can greet one another. If you are gathered here with us today, greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

Sermon | “The Divine Gardener”

April 4, 2023

John 20:1-18 ^{ESV} | 1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4 Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” – and that he had said these things to her.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** gospel charge**

Leader: Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

All: We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

Leader: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

— Romans 6:8-11 ESV

WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.

NOTE TO PARENTS: *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”

— Mark 14:22-24^{ESV}

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Lord and heavenly Father, when we celebrate and observe this memorial your Son has commended to us, we remember his suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension; and we await his coming again with power and great glory. God of Mercy, hear our prayer and by your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the body and blood of your dear Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Holy Name.

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

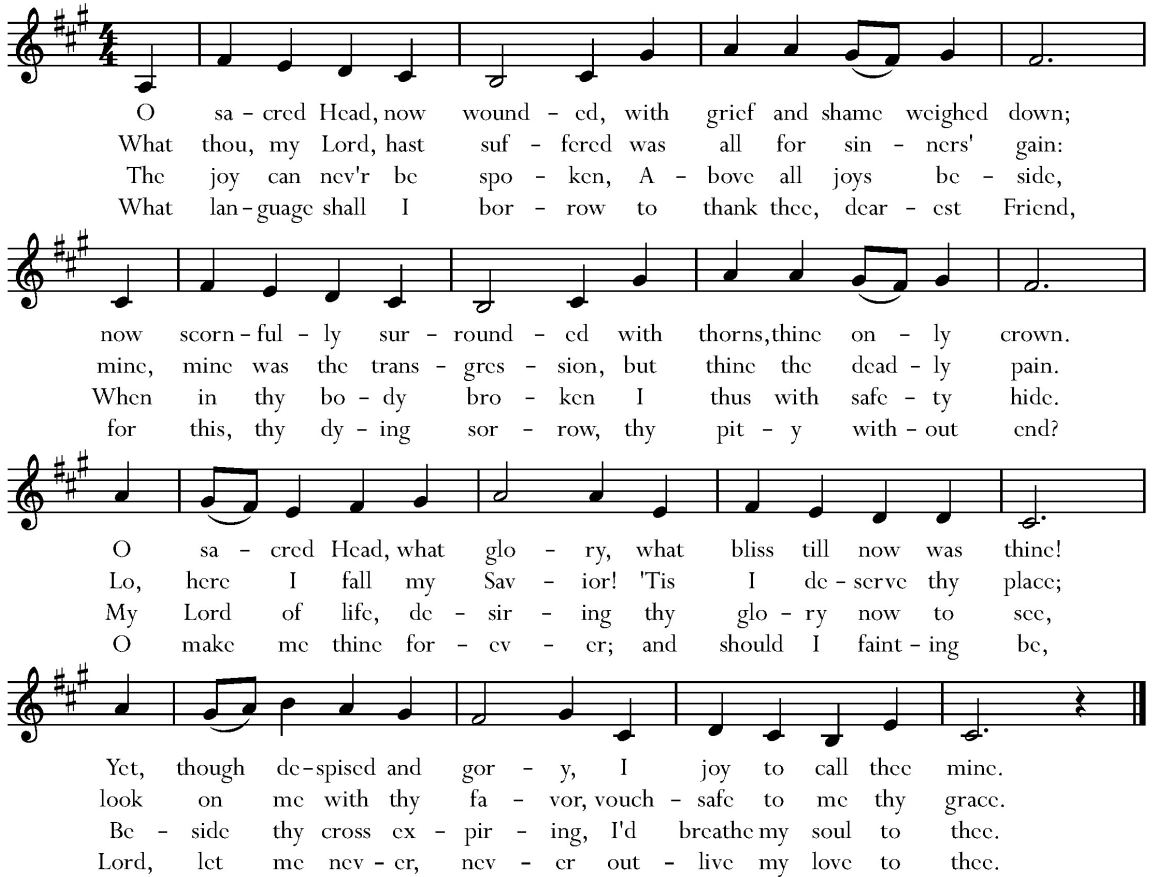
Minister: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.

Minister: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.

O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED



O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:
 The joy can nev'r be spo - ken, A - bove all joys be - side,
 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est Friend,
 now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 When in thy bo - dy bro - ken I thus with safe - ty hide.
 for this, thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Lo, here I fall my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
 My Lord of life, de - sir - ing thy glo - ry now to see,
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,
 Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 look on me with thy fa - vor, vouch - safe to me thy grace.
 Be - side thy cross ex - pir - ing, I'd breathe my soul to thee.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

Words: Bernard of Clairvaux; Music: PASSION CHORALE, Hans Leo Hassler. Public Domain.

The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of His kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so our gifts are freely returned, and in no way add to but are only a response to the supremely adequate work of Christ's atonement.

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

** Chorus:*

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression and rule in equity. *

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight. *

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing. *

The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever; that Name to us is Love. *

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed," Words: James Montgomery; Music (alt lyrics): Sandra McCracken.
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announcements

**** benediction**

****doxology**

**All: 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.**

for first-time visitors

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out a visitor card, located at the entrance by the bulletins.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school resumes **next Sunday, April 16, 915a**. Adults – A new five week adult Sunday School class led by Daniel McDowell will begin next week. The class will cover the basic concepts of Christian worldview or how to see our world through God's plan of redemption as revealed in Jesus Christ and Holy Scripture. This class will be held in the music room across from the worship area. All those not participating in the Biblical and Financial Concepts class are encouraged to join.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please make plans to attend a congregational meeting immediately following service **Sunday, April 23**, to elect Corporate Officers for the church.

SAVE THE DATE

Tentatively mark your calendars to help move the church from Pickett Elementary to Sedro Crossing the afternoon of **Sunday, April 30**. Many hands make light work! **Contact Bryan Herron** (deacons@cpcgeorgetown.org) with questions.

help pack the office

If you are interested in helping pack the office up in preparation for our move to Sedro, **please contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org).

update your directory information

Would you like to update your photo or contact information in the online directory? CPC has a self-service membership portal to manage personal information! **Contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) to learn how to register and update your personal information in Servant Keeper!

congratulations

We rejoice with James, Ira, Fin, and Luna Schell on the birth of Dante Valentine! He was born March 24 and measured 6lbs, 5oz, 19 inches. Mom and baby are home and doing well!

easter breakfast thank you

Thank you to **Sherryl and Dick Hatz** for organizing the wonderful Easter breakfast this morning! We also thank everyone who brought food and drinks to contribute. What a blessing it is to be able to fellowship together!

thank you for the new website

Thank you to Rob Castro for heading up the new website design team! The new website looks amazing! Check it out at **www.cpcgeorgetown.org**. A warm thank you to all who contributed many hours of editing, design, and writing: Rob Castro, Rose Castro, Jan Britigan, Emily Ferguson, Anna Flynn, Shawn Horrall, Lane Joffrion, Luanne Reimers, Debbe Tanner, and Jan Windsor.