

RESURRECTION MORNING WORSHIP

APRIL 12, 2020

Dear Missio Dei Church Family,

Here we stand on arguably one of the church's most beloved and popular Sundays – Easter Sunday – with most of the world's citizens cloistered at home to help contain the spread of the coronavirus. Instead of dressing up in our new Easter outfits and ready to sing our favorite heart-warming worship songs and hearing a sermon about the resurrection of Christ at 360 South Park Street in Manhattan, we find ourselves “sheltering in place” in our own homes. How should we respond?

For me, this pandemic feels like one long Holy Saturday, where we live in that strange space between loss and death and the life we hope for on the other side. Everything feels disjointed and unexpected and disorienting.

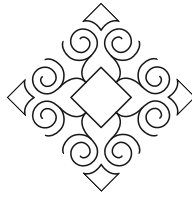
So maybe we need to turn to the Easter story in the gospels (see Matthew 28:1–20, Mark 16:1–8, Luke 24:1–53, John 20:1–21:25). In all the accounts of the resurrection, you will find remarkable silence, the greatest in all Scripture. Nowhere does the Bible offer a moment by moment description of the Resurrection itself, no language telling us how exactly how it happened, no speculation as to what went on in the tomb that first Easter morning.

But what we do have is a surprise.

Early on that Sunday morning, some of his disciples went to the tomb with heavy hearts expecting to anoint his dead body with spices, some were further grieved by his missing body, others were huddled up and secluded away in fear eight days after his resurrection (John 20:19ff). All of them were found with suffering, pain, and agony. They were filled with doubt and confusion and misery.

But, our risen Jesus simply and shockingly shows up to his disciples! Alive!

In time, this merry band of uneducated fishermen, outcasts, and losers turned the world upside-down with the good news of Jesus Christ. Salvation arrived for all who believed in this good news. Read to the end of the New Testament and we see that this same gospel of our resurrected Christ redeems the entire world. All of this emanates out of a glorious emptiness we celebrate Easter morning.

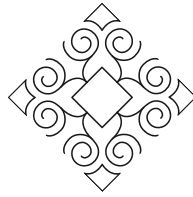


Even though coronavirus feels like it gets the last word on this Easter Sunday, we know that it does not have the last word! My friends, who are dearly loved by Christ, remember that "He is risen!" We know as his redeemed children, we have all that we need (Isaiah 53:4-6, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:1-3, Philippians 1:20-21, Colossians 3:4, 1 Corinthians 15:10, 1 John 4:19, 1 Peter 2:24,)! Do you believe that?

Yes, it would be wonderful to be meeting together to joyfully celebrate the resurrection of Christ, but should that not be part of our normal everyday life? Friends, let us not forget that celebrating the resurrection is not reserved for one "Holy Week" or one day a year, but it is for today and tomorrow and the day after that and throughout all of eternity! So, even though we are in separate homes and not gathered together at 360 South Park Street here in Manhattan, we still find ourselves on this Easter morning richly blessed and able to be fed by God through His Word by His Spirit.

I am praying and longing for our time together. May our longing for His courts bring God great glory, deepen our relationships with one another, and fuel an evangelistic fervor for sharing the gospel of our Risen Christ!

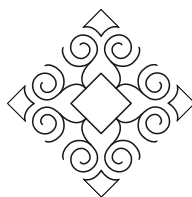
Until that day,
May the peace of Christ be with you!



BEFORE YOU START

- Pick a time and place. We know that disruptions may come up, but do your best to preserve this time. It is powerful when we slow down, take time to worship, and pay attention to the way God is moving. Put phones and other distractions away.
- Designate a leader to transition through the elements of the liturgy. Portions that say “together” will be read or prayed by everyone. This practice will help you stay focused and help the service flow more naturally.
- Don’t feel a need to rush through everything! If God’s doing something, linger there.
- Remember your participation in the whole of it matters! Try to avoid just listening to the sermon, but participate in as many of the elements you can. Every element is formative and shaping us in particular and powerful ways, not just the preached Word of God. If it’s time to sing, sing with passion. If it’s time to read, read with confidence.
- We put everything in order so you can simply scroll down through the order of the liturgy. We know that this might feel a little weird, but as you interact with our content this morning, know that you are not alone. God is with us and many others around the world are worshiping in the same way today.
- Last but not least, give tons of grace to yourself. Dependent on if you’re engaging solo or with others will affect how this plays itself out. Kids will adjust how things go and that’s ok. Experiment one way this week and if something doesn’t work, adjust it. God is with you. God is in you. He loves you and will guide you in these times.

We love you all and can’t wait to gather again as a whole church body, but until then, lead with faith and confidence. We trust that God will be using this time of scattering to gather us to Himself and deepen our roots in Him.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 12, 2020

(This week we added a few things to this week's video and to our liturgy, so you will need to jump around a bit with technology. Don't worry about pauses or fumbling through technology!)

Welcome

Watch the first Welcome portion of the video. After the Easter greetings from our church family, press pause.

Call to Worship

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Family: He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

Leader: Praise the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Family: He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.

Leader: God has claimed us as his own.

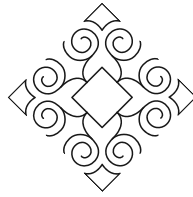
Family: He has made us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Family: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Songs of Adoration

Sing the first two songs on the YouTube or Spotify play list. The lyrics are found on the last page.



In Christ Alone

Verse 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

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness 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

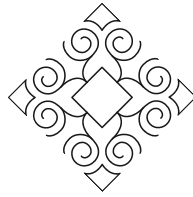
Verse 3

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

Verse 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

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Living Hope

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain 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
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 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

Verse 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
(REPEAT)
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

CCLI Song # 7106807

Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham

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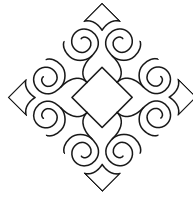
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Affirmation of Our Faith

Let us confess our faith by reading Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 27 & 28:

Leader: How did Christ humble himself?

Family: Christ humbled himself in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Leader: How is Christ exalted?

Family: Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

Prayers for Christ's Church and the World

Spend a few moments taking prayer requests. Pray with and for each other, our community, our church, our missionaries (Ambrose and Camiola Families), our nation, and the world.

Sermon

"Why It Matters That Jesus Rose Again!" (2 Corinthians 4:7-18)

Watch the teaching video from Pastor Paul. Here's YouTube Channel:

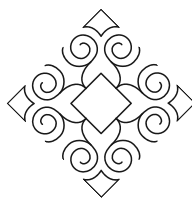
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMH1wOLwfQUI6Xydt0HQP_Q/

Sermon Discussion

See the next page for discussion questions. Close your discussion in prayer.

Songs of Response

Sing the last two songs on the YouTube or Spotify play list.



Before the Throne Of God Above

Verse 1

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Chorus

Hallelujah
My life is found in Jesus Christ
Hallelujah
For I am His and He is mine

Verse 2

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Saviour died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me

To look on Him and pardon me

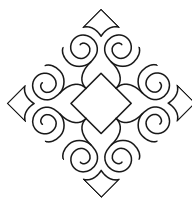
Verse 3

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God

Verse 4

I bow before the cross of Christ
And marvel at this love divine
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
To make me righteous in God's eyes
This river's depths I cannot know
But I can glory in its flood
The Lord Most High has bowed down low
And poured on me His glorious love
And poured on me His glorious love

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Christ Is Risen

Verse 1

Let no one caught in sin remain
Inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us
Freely You've bled for us

Chorus

Christ is risen from the dead
Trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead
We are one with Him again
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave

Verse 2

Beneath the weight of all our sin
You bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown
No burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign
Forever let Your church proclaim

Bridge

O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive

CCLI Song # 5242683

Matt Maher | Mia Fieldes

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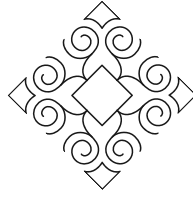
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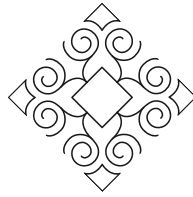
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Giving of Your Offerings

If you are a part of our church family, one of the ways that we worship is through the faithful giving of our tithes and our offerings. Here are flexible ways you can contribute during this time: <https://www.mdchurch.us/giving>



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN IDEA: The resurrection gives us the ability to survive hardship, because death is not the end.

1. What was one or two things that really jumped out to you?

2. Tim Keller wrote,

“...no matter what precautions we take, no matter how well we have put together a good life, no matter how hard we have worked to be healthy, wealthy, comfortable with friends and family, and successful with our career— something will inevitably ruin it. No amount of money, power, and planning can prevent bereavement, dire illness, relationship betrayal, financial disaster, or a host of other troubles from entering your life.”

Share some of the ways or events in your life where your hopes and dreams have been ruined?

3. When your hopes and dreams have been ruined, to whom or what did you turn to give you hope or relief? Be honest...

4. Ultimately, “Everything sad will come untrue.” Where have you seen a sad, broken, ugly, or shame-filled part of your life being made new or renewed by Jesus?

5. Who needs to hear this good news about Jesus? Pray for them by name. You can even use this prayer: **Lord, would you: Open a door. Open my mouth. Open their heart.**