

PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH
EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
WORSHIP IN PERSON AND AT HOME
APRIL 4, 2021
9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Preakness Reformed Church!

*"Hope is not lost. Though in the valley of despair or death, God will not leave us for dead but will give us new life and restore our hope. God will put our lives back together again. The Spirit of God will breathe in us and bring us up out of our graves. God says, you shall live!"
-Dean of Duke University Chapel and Professor at Duke Divinity School, Luke A. Powery*

✠ *Congregation standing, as able
Masks on looking down*

WE GATHER IN THE JOY OF EASTER

EASTER LITANY

-adapted from the Gospel of Mark

And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices, and went to the tomb. They were wondering, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

Then the women looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But the young man said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you!"

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them!

✠ OPENING SONG 264 Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER
(refrain, verse 1 and refrain)

✠ PASSING THE JOY AND PEACE OF EASTER

We now come to the empty tomb, we hear the incredible news that Christ is Risen!
We have joy in our hearts this day!
CHRIST IS RISEN!
CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA! AMEN!

(Please offer a sign of joy and peace safely to one another.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF BLESSING

THE EASTER MESSAGE

THE MESSENGER: EZEKIEL

THE READING OF THE WORD OF EZEKIEL

EZEKIEL 37:1-14

THE MESSAGE “Prophetic Pronouncement for God’s People:
God is in the business of Resurrection and Restoration”

RESPONDING WITH THE HOPE OF EASTER

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation and Meaning of the Sacrament

The Communion Prayer for Easter

-PC(USA) Mission Agency

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. Our hearts are glad, our tongues rejoice, and we live now in hope—for you have made known to us the way of life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. To Christ you gave all honor and power and glory, and through him you give us the gift of eternal life. We belong to Christ, and in Christ, we belong to you. Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ and with your church in all the world. Like the first followers of Jesus, fill us with the awe and wonder of your presence as we devote ourselves to your teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer, sharing what we have and giving to those who are in need.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution and Communion

(After the words of institution, please unwrap your individual communion cup and receive the body and blood of Christ.)

✠ CLOSING SONG 182 Christ the Lord is Risen Today EASTER HYMN
(verses 1 -4)

✠ EASTER BLESSING

*Assisting God's people in worship this morning are Pastor Eric Nichols, worship leader;
Reverend Mary L. Marcus, liturgist; Ken Tanis, Jerry Deplet & Roger Miller, sound;
Kevin Lynch, accompanist and Jessica Amato, Lee Mamolen & Mike O'Reilly, vocalists.*

*Preakness Reformed Church - 131 Church Lane, Wayne NJ 07470973-694-5481
www.preaknessreformed.org
CCLI#11100448*

Easter Offering will go to Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children. Oasis is a nonprofit organization located in Paterson NJ. Their mission is to provide educational and social services to assist women entering the workforce and help fill the needs of children to flourish academically. They also operate a soup kitchen and provide food, clothing to residents in need.

Lift High the Cross

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

Refrain Unison

C G7 C Gsus G

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

C F G Dm7 G7 C *Fine*

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

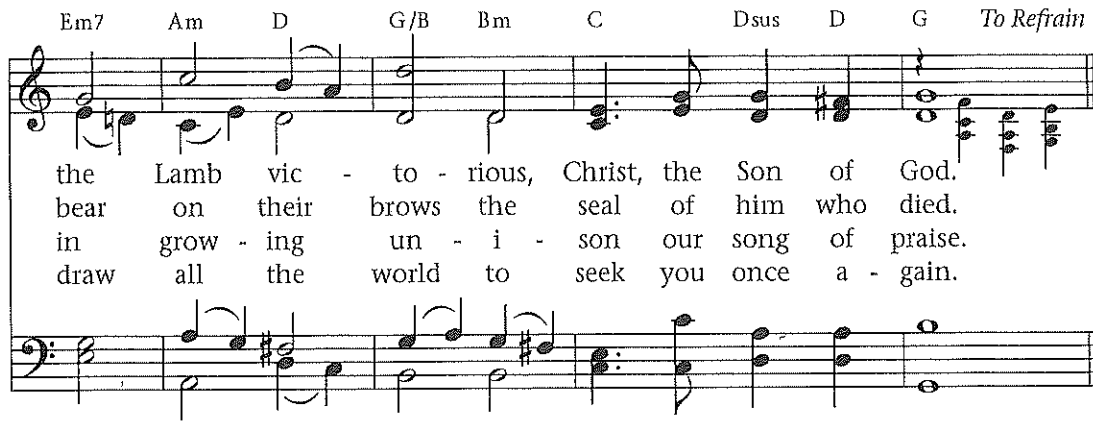
Harmony

Em Am D Bm C Em B

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 From north and south, from east and west we raise
 4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the tree of pain,

Words: George W. Kitchin, 1887, rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1916, alt. © 1974 Hope Publishing Company
 Music (CRUCIFER 10.10 refrain 10.10): Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916, © 1974 Hope Publishing Company; desc.
 Richard Proulx © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Em7 Am D G/B Bm C Dsus D G *To Refrain*



the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 in grow - ing un - i - son our song of praise.
 draw all the world to seek you once a - gain.

- 5 Let every race and every language tell
 of him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*
- 6 Set up your throne, that earth's despair may cease
 beneath the shadow of its healing peace. *Refrain*
- 7 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
 praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

A Prayer for the Mission of the Church 265

Lord God,
 we bless you for your charge to us
 to "make disciples from every nation
 and to teach them to obey all
 that you have commanded us."

**How grateful we are
 for your promise to never leave us
 or forsake us.**

*[Add other prayers that rehearse God's commissioning,
 and promises]*

As we seek to plant the seed of your word,
 and to water the seed once planted,
**teach us to trust and to testify
 that you are the source of all the growth.**

[Add other prayers that rehearse dependence on God]

As the seed of your Word
 is planted in our hearts,
**help us—and all those around us—
 to be good soil,**

**receptive to all that you desire for us
 to know, to love, and to do.**

*[Add other prayers for receptive hearts, among both those
 who minister and those who are ministered to]*

By your Spirit,
 increase our "love and knowledge
 and depth of insight:

**so that
 "we may discern what is best,
 and be pure and blameless
 for the day of Christ,
 filled with the harvest of righteousness
 that comes through Jesus,
 to the glory and praise of God."**

[Add other prayers for discernment and wisdom in ministry]

We pray,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

182 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

C F C F C/G G7 C

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day! Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; Al - le - lu - ia!

F Dm7 G C F C/G G7 C

All cre - a - tion, join to say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!

G C G Am G/D D7 G

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died, our souls to save; Al - le - lu - ia!

C F C F C/G G7 C

Sing, O heavens, and earth, re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!

(continues)

Chord symbols represent a simplified harmony.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.

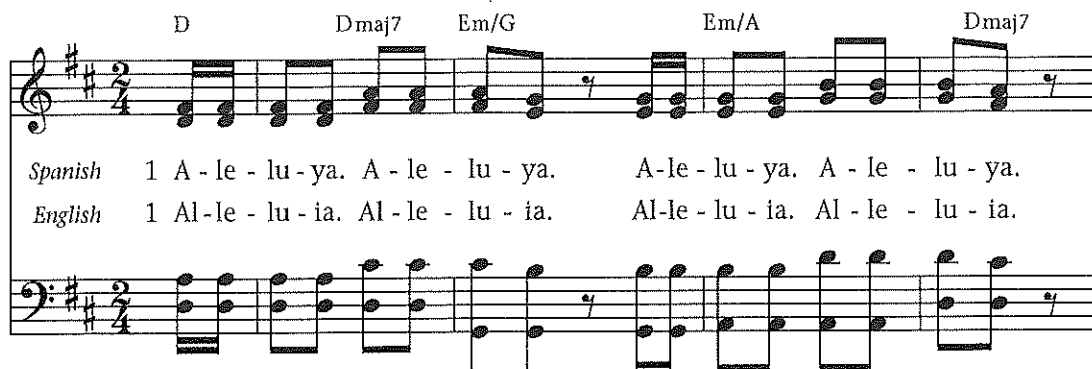
Music (EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7 with alleluias): *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, P.D.

- 4 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!
- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
 Praise to you by both be given; Alleluia!
 Risen Christ, triumphant now; Alleluia!
 Every knee to you shall bow. Alleluia!

Aleluya/Alleluia


183

D Dmaj7 Em/G Em/A Dmaj7



Spanish 1 A - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya.
 English 1 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

D F#m Em/G F#m/A Em/A D



A - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Christ the Lord is risen in - deed.

- 2 Alleluia, alleluia. (3x) Christ, the firstfruits from the grave.
 3 Alleluia, alleluia. (3x) Christ has given us new life.
 4 Alleluia, alleluia. (3x) Glory, love, and praise to God.

Words: traditional

Music (ALELUYA HONDURAS 8.8.8.7): Honduran traditional melody; arr. John L. Bell (b. 1949) © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent