

ORDER OF WORSHIP - MARCH 31, 2024  
EASTER SUNDAY

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Al Gwinn

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

PRELUDE

Dr. James Humlong

Toccata on "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"  
arr. Diane Bish

INTROIT

Chancel Choir, handbells, and brass

**An Easter Call to Praise**  
arr. Stacey Nordmeyer

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Joan Wooden

Rejoice! There is great news! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen, indeed!**  
Let all the earth proclaim the joy!  
**Let all heaven show forth in praise.**  
Alleluia!  
**Alleluia!**

\*HYMN 302

stanzas 1-4

**Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
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.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Parker Outman

**ANTHEM**

Chancel Choir and brass

**Resurrection Hymn (See What a Morning)**

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, arr. Steven Strite

Alleluia!

See what a morning gloriously bright,  
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem.

Folded the grave clothes, tomb filled with light,  
as the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"

See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, borne in pain,  
paid in sacrifice, fulfilled in Christ, the man, for he lives:

Christ is risen from the dead!

Alleluia!

See Mary weeping, "Where is he laid?"  
as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
hears a voice speaking, calling her name;  
it's the master, the Lord, raised to life again.

The voice that spans the years, speaking life,  
stirring hope, bringing peace to us,  
will sound 'til he appears, for he lives,  
Christ is risen from the dead!

Alleluia!

One with the Father, Ancient of days, through the spirit  
who clothes faith with certainty, honor and blessing, glory  
and praise to the King crowned with pow'r and authority.

And we are raised with him, death is dead,  
love has won, Christ has conquered.

And we shall reign with him for he lives,

Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

© 2023 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.  
CCLI#199201

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Pastor Parker Outman

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of new life, where there is despair,  
rise up in us with hope.**

**When we are buried in the tomb of our sin,  
rise up in us with mercy and grace.**

**Bloom forth with grace in our lives,  
that we might burst forth in promise,  
and live with resurrection faith each and every day.  
With Easter joy, we pray. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Give thanks and sing, for God's faithful love  
conquers the grave, covers us with grace,  
and raises us up with new life and new beginnings.  
**Glory to God. Amen.**

**HYMN 314**

**In the Garden**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Dennis Burrows

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

Carillon Choir; Bonnie Lynch, director

**Easter Proclamation**

Lloyd Larson

**\*DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

**\*PRAYER OF BLESSING**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Loretta Barnes

**Luke 24: 1-12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping

and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

This is the word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**

Bishop Al Gwinn

**“Flabbergasted”**

**\*HYMN 308**

**Thine Be the Glory**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Chancel Choir and brass

**Hallelujah**  
G.F. Handel

**\*POSTLUDE**

Dr. James Humlong

**Toccata from *Organ Symphony No. 5***  
Charles-Marie Widor

*This morning's liturgy:*

**Call to Worship** - written by Nancy Townley,  
and posted on the *Worship Connection* page of the

Ministry Matters website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>

**Prayer of Confession** -written by Mary Scifers. From *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019*.

© 2018 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.