

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

We Gather in God's Name

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Maddox

CALL TO WORSHIP

John Booth

The Cross is Empty!

The Tomb is Empty!

Salvation is Ours!

We Worship the Risen Lord!

He is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Easter Meditation
DPC Handbell Choir

Bob Burroughs

OPENING HYMN#232 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

Amy Finka, cantor

CALL TO CONFESSION

John Booth

Dear friends, the Scriptures urge us to acknowledge our sins and not to conceal them from God, but to confess them with a penitent and obedient heart. Therefore, let us draw near to God and pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*quietly in unison*)

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In the Resurrected Christ you serve us freely but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. As we celebrate Easter, lead us once again to your table and unite us to the risen Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine in which we grow in grace, we pray in Christ's name, Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

Remember that it is by grace that you are saved; that your pardon is a gift, never bought, never earned, received only by the open arms of faith.

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

(For those in the sanctuary, please greet one another with a friendly wave.)

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Suzie Lane

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE VERSE

487, vs.4

These Treasured Children

*Come Holy Spirit, help us be
a nurturing community.*

*Empower us to realize
God's kingdom through our children's eyes.*

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 25:6-9

Kim McMullin

L: The word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 10:34-43

Kim McMullin

L: The word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPELS READING

Mark 16:1-8

John Booth

L: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. P: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

SERMON

What Does an Empty Tomb Mean?

Rev. John Booth

We Respond to God's Word

ANTHEM

Sing Glory, Sing Joy

Michael McCabe

Sing glory, sing joy! Alleluia! Our King o'er death is triumphant, let steeple bells ring! Go cry from the house-tops, the hills and the plains! Our Jesus is risen, as King he now reigns!

On a long ago morning all dark was the land as up a sad hillside there walked a small band bearing offerings of spices to embalm their loved dead, and linen and perfume to anoint his bruised head.

At a tomb, torn with weeping, they searched all the ground, but the body of Jesus no where could be found. Then two angels in raiment of dazzling white came and suddenly filled the morning with light.

"Why seek ye the living among all the dead? He is risen upon the third day as he said." Sing glory, sing joy! Alleluia again! For Jesus our King now forever shall reign!

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Kim McMullin

God of Resurrection, breathe your vibrant life into the church that we may be inspired to greater feats of proclamation and love. Conqueror of death, work your will in the world that the nations and leaders of nations might strive for justice, peace, and the equitable distribution of your resources. God of the living, provide hope to the hopeless, joy to the despairing, and healing and wholeness to all who suffer, including those we hold close in our individual hearts.

Pause as Intercessions are offered.

Through the Resurrection of your son, O God, you destroyed the power of death and removed your people's shame. By the power of the Spirit, raise us from sin and seat us at the paschal feast, that we may rejoice in the gift of salvation that comes from the empty tomb.

Hear us now as we pray quietly the prayer that your son 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.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

COMMUNION HYMN#249 "Because You Live, O Christ"
Amy Finka, cantor

THE SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

(Please hold your bread and juice until directed to take it together as community.)

We Bear God's Word Into the World

CLOSING HYMN#248 "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna"
Amy Finka, cantor

GO FORTH TO SERVE THE RISEN LORD!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Chorale Prelude on *Victory* Wilbur Held
Melody for hymn "The Strife Is O'er"



The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary were donated in memory of

Asher & Eva Hoobler

David & Virginia Hoobler

Oscar & Eva Mummert

Alan Edwards

Josephine Rhodes Bahn

David Judson Bahn

Jerald Curtis Maddox

Judy Barr

Joan Gilmore

George & Betty Harris

Robert & Betty Shores

Vicky Harris Feinstein


232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



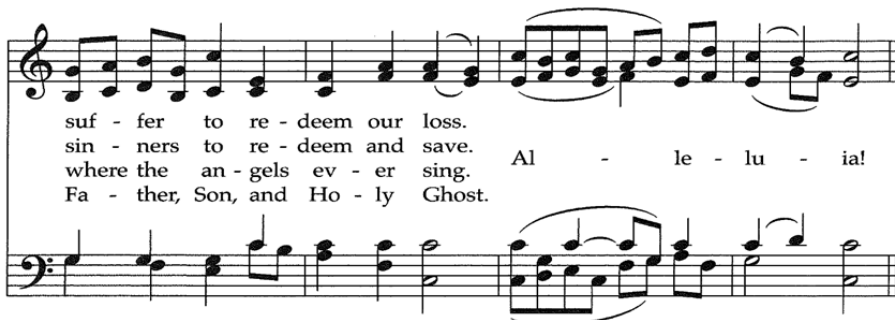
1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

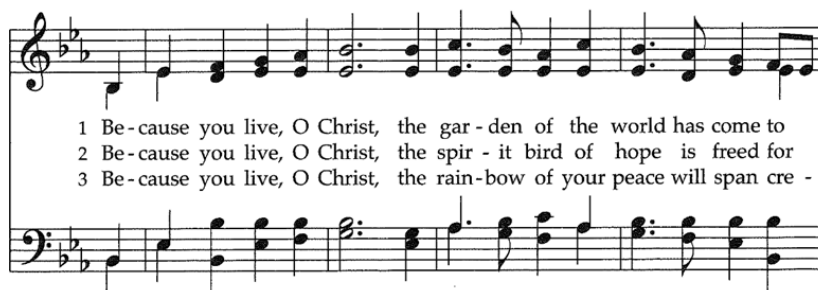


who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,

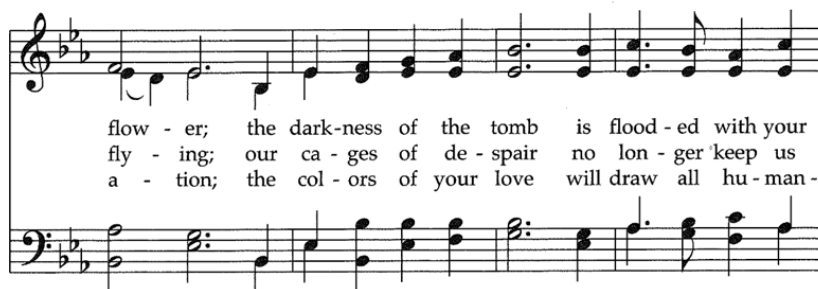


suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

249 Because You Live, O Christ

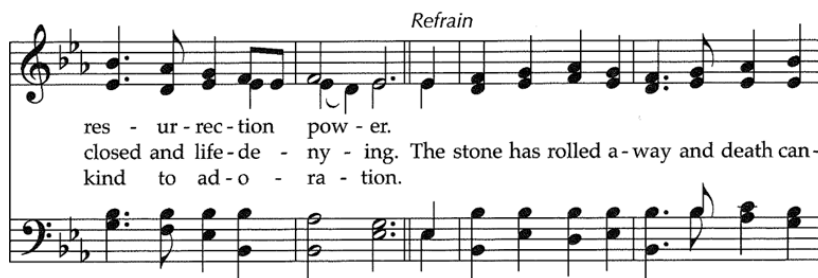


1 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the gar-den of the world has come to
 2 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the spir-it bird of hope is freed for
 3 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the rain-bow of your peace will span cre-

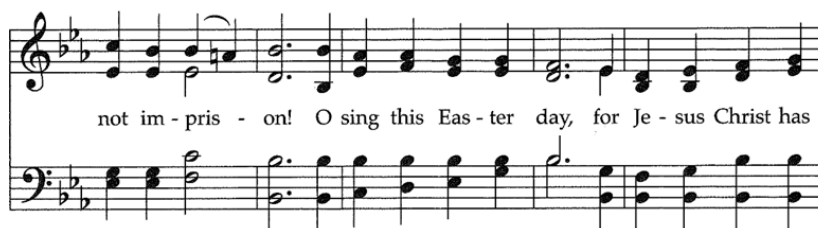


flow-er; the dark-ness of the tomb is flood-ed with your
 fly-ing; our ca-ges of de-spair no lon-ger keep us
 a-tion; the col-ors of your love will draw all hu-man-

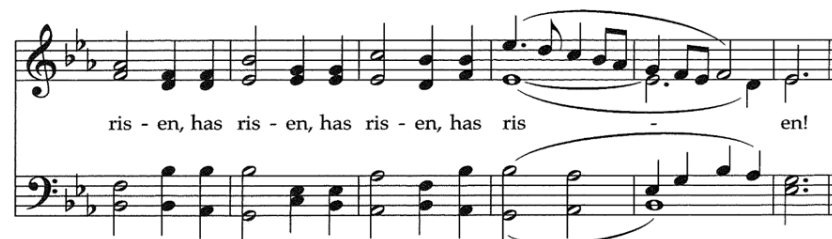
Refrain



res-ur-rec-tion pow-er.
 closed and life-de-ny-ing. The stone has rolled a-way and death can-
 kind to ad-o-ra-tion.

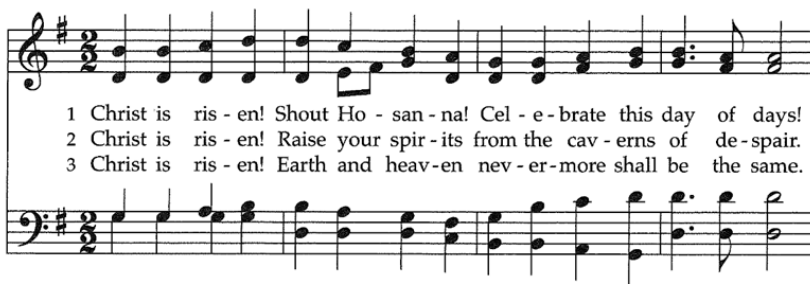


not im-pris-on! O sing this Eas-ter day, for Je-sus Christ has

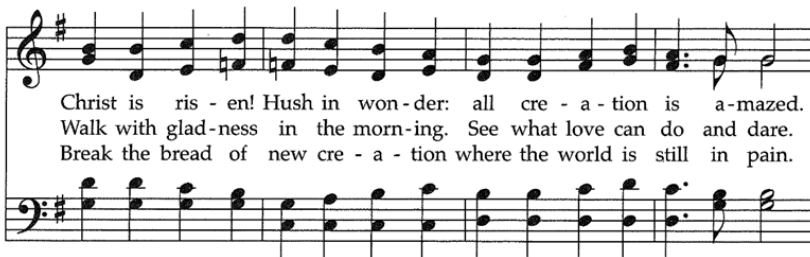


ris-en, has ris-en, has ris-en, has ris-en!

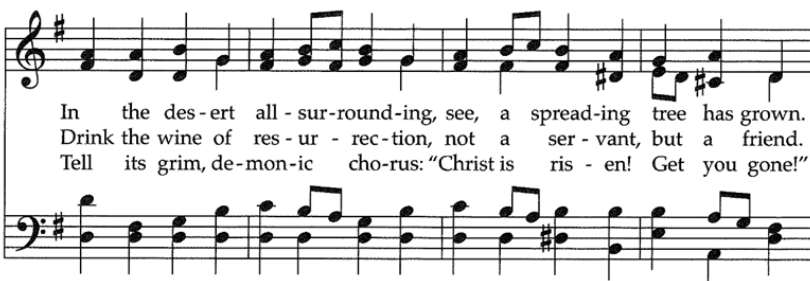
Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248



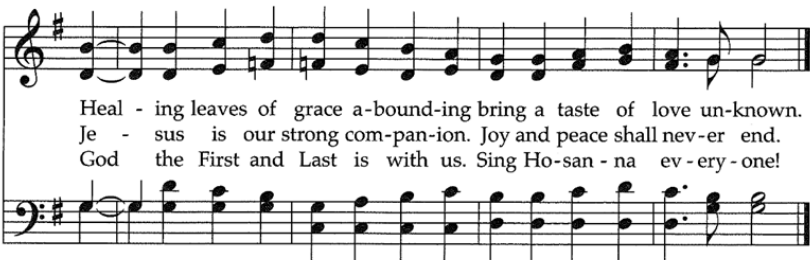
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!