

Mercy Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • APRIL 12, 2020 • 10:30 AM

GATHERING HYMN Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Alleluia!
Sing ye heavens and earth reply. Alleluia!

2. 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!

3. 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!

4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head; Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise: Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Author: Charles Wesley
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CALL TO WORSHIP 1 Peter 1:3-5

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

People: According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be borne again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

Leader: Kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

1. All glory, laud, and honor
To Thee, Redeemer, King!
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and Blessed One!

2. The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our prayer and praise and anthems
Before Thee we present.
To Thee, before Thy Passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.

3. Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King!
All glory, laud, and honor
To Thee, Redeemer King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring!

Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest (repeat)

*Authors: John Mason Neale | Melchior Teschner |
Theodulph Of Orleans
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CONFESSION OF SIN

Romans 6:10-11

Authors: Aaron Kays | Stuart Townsend

Leader: For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 8:31-39

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

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!

Christ is Risen

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:
Chorus

(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
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!
Chorus 2X

*Authors: Matt Maher | Mia Fieldes
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPERATION

In Christ Alone

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.

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 ev'ry sin on Him was laid—
Here in the death of Christ I live.

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.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 24:10-27

And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: "Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city. Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: 'It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.'"

But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case." Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you." At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

SERMON **"The Unavoidable Christ"**
 - Rev. Bryan Rigg

- We avoid Christ because we don't understand the facts

- We avoid Christ because we prefer ignorant bliss

- We avoid Christ because we haven't considered the resurrection

HYMN OF RESPONSE **Jesus Has Risen**

1. Jesus has risen, He has risen indeed;

Jesus has spoken His name for all our needs.
Jesus is walking, full of wounds and full of grace;
Turn to this Redeemer, His blood to make your place.

Chorus: Men: He is risen (women: Alleluia...)
Men: He is reigning (Alleluia...)
Men: He is ruling (Alleluia...)
Men: He is King of Kings (Alleluia...)
Repeat All

2. Let the echoes of the empty tomb rise up in our praise!
Let the shadows of the empty cross remind us He is raised.
Let the fervent prayers of the gathered saints urge us in the fight!
Let the peace of Christ when spoken out fill us with His might.

Chorus 2X

Jesus has risen, He has risen indeed

Words & Music: Bruce Benedict, 2010

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

POSTLUDE

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