

Easter Sunrise Service
April 8, 2012
Providence United Methodist Church

Gathering in the light of the New Fire
Silence and Waiting
Song

“He is Lord”

~ arr. Tom Fettke

He is Lord, He is Lord. He has risen from the dead, and He is Lord
Ev'ry knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord

Scripture
+ Greeting

John 20:1-18

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed!**

+ Songs

“He Lives”

~ Alfred H. Ackley

I serve a risen savior; He's in the world today. I know that He is living whatever men may say.
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer. And just the time I need Him, He's always here.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart. You ask me how I know he lives; He lives within my heart!

Rejoice, rejoice; Oh Christian: lift up your voice and sing. Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find; None other is so loving, so good and kind.

“You Are My King”

~ Billy James Foote

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your spirit is within me because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be that You my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true now it's my joy to honor You. In all I do, I honor You

You are my king, You are my king, Jesus, You are my king, Jesus, You are my king

Resurrection Dialogue

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us glorify the Lord, **For all his goodness to us.**

Why are you here so early this morning? **We want to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Hallelujah!**

Yes, but you make so much noise when you celebrate. I was hoping for a nice, quiet service. **We're sorry, but the resurrection of Christ is not something to whisper about.**

O.K., then, what is it that you want to shout? **We want to shout, “The Christ is risen from the tomb!”**

When did he die? **Last Friday, about three o'clock in the afternoon.**

What was the cause of death? **Crucifixion, loss of blood, suffocation, a broken heart, and our lack of love.**

How do you know that the Christ is risen from the tomb? **Mary Magdalene and the other Mary told Peter and John, and they told the other disciples who told the church, and the church told us.**

What does all this have to do with you? **We are part of Christ. Hallelujah!**

Then you were once dead? **We were dead as doornails—dead in hate, dead in sin, dead in sorrow, dead in pain.**

And now you are risen from the tomb? **We are alive forevermore. We have come to a newness of life. Hallelujah!**

Does that mean that you will never again hate or hurt? **It means that sadness and hatred and pain will never again defeat us. It means that the victory is always assured.**

Are you celebrating the victory today? **Hallelujah! Amen.**

What kind of mood are you in? **A joyful, excited, happy mood.**

Then why are you not smiling? **It's hard to read and smile at the same time.**

How do you express your joy? **By participating in this service and shouting and singing that Christ has risen!**
Now you're making altogether too much noise. **We make more noise than this watching a football game. It would be a shame to make more noise over a touchdown than over the resurrection of Christ.**

I agree. How else do you express your joy? **By answering your questions. (Pause) May we ask you some questions?**
You certainly may. **What does Easter mean to you?**

It means that the Kingdom of Heaven has begun, that the Messiah has come, that sin and death have been defeated, that evil is on its way out, that Christ lives and reigns, that our eternal life has begun here and now. **What can we do to keep Easter happening all year 'round?**

Live, love, and life in love. **What does that mean?**

It means to be ready and willing to love one another and receive one another's love. **We love you.**

And I love you, and God loves you. **Is there going to be a sermon this morning?**

You and I have just preached a very important sermon. **In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

Hallelujah! Amen!

Song "Give Thanks" ~ Henry Smith

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His son.
And now, let the weak say I am strong; Let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give Thanks.

Service of Holy Communion
Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer
Breaking the Bread
Giving the Bread and Cup

"Once Again" ~ Matt Redman
Ashley Kiper, Solo

Song "Shout to the Lord" ~ Darlene Zschech

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you
All of my days, I want to praise, the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength.
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing. Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever, I'll love you forever, I'll stand. Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

Sending Forth

Everyone is invited to a pancake breakfast in the Social Hall of the church following this service.

Easter Day Schedule:

8:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
9:00 a.m. Connections Contemporary worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School classes for all ages
11:00 a.m. Traditional worship