



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Rondeau

Jean-Joseph Mouret

The Introit

'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

The Call to Worship

L: Don't weep! Don't mourn! There is great Good News!

P: Christ the Lord is risen today!

L: Put away your garments of mourning; let the light of God's love flood into your lives.

P: Christ the Lord is risen today!

L: No more do we have to fear the darkness; it has been overcome by God's light.

P: Christ the Lord is risen today. Alleluia!

The Hymn No. 302

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

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| 1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, 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's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia! |
| 2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia! | 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! |

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

The Opening Prayer

L: The Lord be with You.

P: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

P: **Loving God of light, we hid in the darkness
and you brought the light of Salvation to our eyes and our spirits.
We praise you for the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.
We have received the greatest good news of healing, hope, and restoration.
Praise be to you, eternal God, for this gift of love. Amen.**

The First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalter pages 839-840 using response 2

Psalms 118:14-29

[The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone. All other responses will be sung by everyone.]

Response:

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us re-joyce, let us re-joyce, let us re-joyce and be glad.

- 14 The Lord is my strength and my power;
The Lord has become my salvation.
- 15 **There are joyous songs of victory
in the tents of the righteous:**
“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly,
16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted,
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!”
- 17 I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
- 18 **The lord has chastened me sorely,
but has not given me over to death.**
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 **This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

Response

- 21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- 22 **The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

- 23 This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 **This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Response

- 25 Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!
26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
27 The Lord is God,
who has given us light.
**Lead the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar!**
28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
29 **O give thanks to the Lord, who is good;
for God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

Response

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel Lesson

John 20:1-18

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

No More Living in Denial

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Anthem

This Joyful Eastertide

Charles Wood

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now is Christ arisen.*

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lord of all life, from ill my passing life deliver.

Refrain

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.

Refrain

George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1894

The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

The Hymn No. 304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

1. Easter people, raise your voices
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

2. Fear of death can no more stop us
from our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us
to triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

3. Every day to us is Easter,
with its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster
to our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power
of heavenly throngs.

Words: William M. James, 1979; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1867

The Benediction

The Choral Response

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

The Postlude

Allegro maestoso e vivace (from Sonata No. 2)

Felix Mendelssohn

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor: Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Director of Music/Organist: Stanley M. Baker
Singers: Emily Downey, Anne O'Byrne,
Todd Minnich, Sam Cook

Scriptures

Acts 10:34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ And Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

John 20:1-18

The Resurrection of Jesus

20 Now on the first day of the week Mary Mag'dalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³ Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. ⁴ They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; ⁵ and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, ⁷ and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴ Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rab-bo'ni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” ¹⁸ Mary Mag'dalene went and said to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.