



**Easter Sunday**

**April 5, 2026**

**Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC**

**“There They Will See Me”**

**United in Christ’s love, a just world for all**

# *He Is Risen!*

## **Easter Sunday April 5, 2026**

### **Singing Prelude**

*Were You There?*

Spiritual

**Were you there when He rose up from the dead?  
Were you there when He rose up from the dead?  
O...sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when He rose up from the dead?**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **We Approach God's Presence**

### **Meditation/Bringing in the Light of Christ**

*In the Garden*

Miles

### **Introit**

*Processional on Hallelujah*  
Bella Handbell Choir

Keller

### **Responsive Call to Worship**

Marianne Dickson

In the quiet of the dawn, the earth trembles with holy surprise.

Stones are rolled away. Death does not hold.

In the breaking light, heaven touches earth once more.

Angels speak. Fear loosens its grip.

**We come, like the women at the tomb,**

**carrying our questions, our grief, our longing.**

**And we hear the voice that calls us forward:**

**“Do not be afraid.”**

Christ is not here—for he has been raised.

He goes ahead of us—into life, into hope, into the world.

**With the women we run to share the Good News:**

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

### **\*Hymn**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.



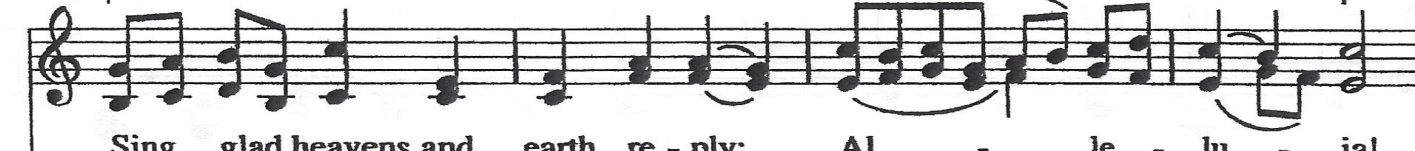
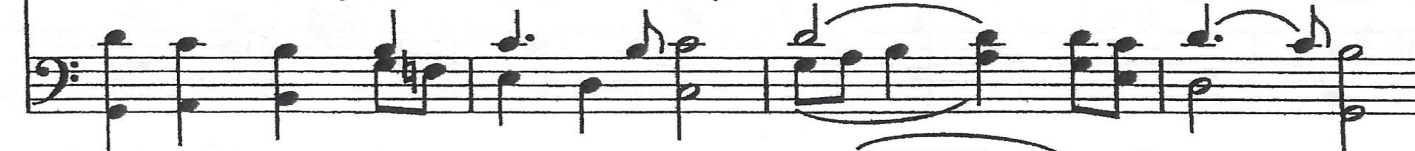
1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!



Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!



Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!



**\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

God of resurrection,

We come carrying what feels final— griefs we cannot undo, fears we cannot quiet, endings we do not understand. Like the women at the tomb, we arrive expecting to find what has been lost. We brace ourselves for what cannot be changed.

**Forgive us when we limit your power**

**to what we have already known.**

**Forgive us when fear becomes the story we trust most.**

Shake the ground beneath our certainty.

Roll away the stones that seal us in—

stones of despair, stones of resignation, stones of fear.

**And speak to us again—**

**calling us into life,**

**calling us into hope,**

**calling us beyond what we thought possible.**

**Through Christ, our Risen Messiah,**

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*Words of Grace**

God has acted where we could not.

Christ is risen—not by human effort, but by divine love.

There is no place so final that God cannot bring new life.

Do not be afraid. For nothing is stronger than God’s love.

**AMEN.**

**Response**

*Alleluia*

Sinclair

**We Encounter God in the Word**

**Contemplative Reading** *Between the Listening and the Telling*

Mark Yaconelli

God is still speaking. **Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

*An Easter Alleluia!*

Young

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 28:1-10

*NRSVue*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

“There They Will See Me”

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

## We Respond to God's Grace

**Congregational Prayers**

**Silent Prayers**

**Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer (sung)**

**Our Father, which 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 Share God's Love

**Invitation to Generosity**      *(Offering plates are found by each doorway for your use.)*

**\*Song of Gratitude**

*Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

**\*Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**God of new life,**

**Receive these gifts as signs of our resurrection hope. Use them to bring courage where there is fear, life where there is loss, and love where it is most needed. May they join your work already unfolding in the world. Amen.**

## Invitation to Holy Communion

So come, for this is not our table, but God's table. Where strangers become friends, friends become community, and all are welcomed into new life. Come as you are and leave better than how you came.

**We come to this table**

**to eat the bread and drink of the cup**

**that fills us with God's abundant love,**

**that blesses us to be a reflection**

**of God's original blessing, and**

**that reconnects us to God, God's creation,**

**and each other through the power**

**of Resurrection Living. Alleluia!**

*(The ministers and servers will prepare the elements; the congregation is then invited to come and receive the bread and the cup. If you cannot come but wish to receive, the servers will come to you.)*

**Communion Meditation**

*One Bread, One Body  
Jesus, Name above All Names*

Foley/arr. Hayes  
Hearn/arr. Wilson

**We Go to Carry the Light**

**\*Hymn**

*The Day of Resurrection* (back page)

**\*Blessing and Benediction**

**\*Sending Blessing**

*He Is Lord*  
(Sing Twice)

Traditional

**He is Lord, he is Lord!  
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord!**

**Postlude**

*Fanfare for a Resurrection Day*

**Please remain seated in silence for the Postlude as the Light of Christ is carried into the world. The worship has ended; our service begins.**

Worship materials are taken from Mark Yaconelli. *Between the Listening and the Telling: How Stories Can Save Us*. Broadleaf Books: Minneapolis, MN, 2022;  
Adapted from *What Is Good: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*  
by Rev. Teña T. Nock

**Supporting Our Service Today**

**Acolyte:** Bella Clapham      **Liturgist:** Marianne Dickson

**Communion Steward:** Marilyn Schwab

**Welcome Table:** Posie Gallaher      **Greeters:** Mer Zovko and Paul Chebator

**Head Usher:** Linda Newton      **Usher Team:** Jim Daugherty, Kathy Hare,  
Steve Hemping, Nancy Knudson, Char Raitt, Dick Schleicher

**Technology Team**

*(Live Streaming, Camera, and Sound Technicians)*

Gary Woodrum, Debra Mosely, Maria Groody, David Jack, Linda Newton,  
Wally Davis, Patty Fjetland, Scott Mellen, Gary and Sharon Leidheiser

The **Lord's Table** was decorated by Victoria Augustine

The **Sanctuary Flowers** are given by  
Barb Quinn: “Easter Love and Blessings to My VUCC Family”

The **Church Sign** was changed by Faye Newton and Lisa Sclafani

**Sunday Librarian:** Pat Fischer

**Fellowship Time:** There is no Fellowship Time today. Please join us next Sunday.

**This Week at a Glance**

**Monday, April 6**

**Office Closed**

**12:00 Noon:** Women’s Luncheon at Burgundy Square Cafe

**6:30 PM** Bridge - Parlor

**Tues. 04-07**

**9:00 AM** Staff Meeting

**1:00 PM** VAGC—CR

**6:00 PM** Girl Scouts

**10:00 AM** AAUW—Naar Hall

**4:00 PM** Handbell Rehearsal

**6:00 PM** Daisies

**Wed. 04-08**

**9:00 AM-12:00** Library open

**10:00 AM** Bible Study—CR

**11:00 AM** RCSSC—Naar Hall

**3:30 PM** Shamrock Youth Bells

**6:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal

**6:30 PM** Chestnut Creek HOA—Naar Hall

**Fri. 04-10**

**8:30 AM** Men's Weekly Coffee at Panera

**9:00 AM** Knit Wits—Parlor

**Sun. 04-12**

**9:00 AM** Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

**9:00 AM** Library Hour

**10:00 AM** Worship (in situ and virtual)

**After Worship** Fellowship Time

Library Open

**Thurs. 04-09**

**Looking Ahead**

3:00 PM, Saturday, April 18, Movie—*Mission Joy*—Naar Hall

**Sunday, April 26, Annual Meeting after Worship—Naar Hall**

**Senior Minister**

**Rev. Barbara Dickason**

**Music Staff**

**Barbara Quinn:** *Music Director*

**Lynda Weston:** *Bella Handbell Director*

**Other Staff**

**Gary Leidheiser:** *Custodian*

**Barb Quinn:** *Office Assistant*

**Church office hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9-1**

Would you like to donate to VUCC online? Use your Smart Phone to scan the QR code on the right, and it will take you directly to our donations page. It is really easy!



# The Day of Resurrection

John of Damascus, 8th century  
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;  
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,  
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn.  
John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.  
Henry T. Smart, 1836