Worship Service for April 9, 2023

Easter Proclamation ~

Dottie Sundquist ~ He is risen! Everyone ~ He is risen indeed!

Welcome and Announcements ~

Tuesday ~ Deacon Meeting at the church at 4:30 pm and Prayer Group with Book Discussion on chapters 3-4 of *What Does Your Soul Love?* led by Glenna at 7 pm via zoom.

Thursday ~ Mission Meeting at 4 pm a the church and Choir Practice at the church at 7 pm.

Happy Birthday to Ashley Hess and Maurie Hill on Thursday!

Thank you to Peggy Brockett for the flowers today in loving memory of her grandparents, Willard & Edith Thompson.



Prelude ~ Everyone is invited to come and place a small bouquet of flowers in the Easter cross, in honor of Christ's Resurrection as the worship team shares a song called "His Heart Beats."

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Call to Worship ~ Psalm 16:8-11 (NIV)

Please join in saying the bold lines.

⁸ I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,

10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
 nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
 11 You make known to me the path of life;
 you will fill me with joy in your presence,
 with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Song ~ "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" (#216 in the blue hymnal)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia! Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where you victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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!

Sour 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 and Music ~ Lyra Davidica, 1708 | Public Domain

Praying Together ~ Please join in reading the bold lines.

Eternal Lord, we gather together with joy in our hearts.

Today we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus our Savior.

It reminds us that you have power over death and nothing is stronger than your love.

Help us to trust in your love for us...

May everything that happens here today bring honor to You for all You are and all You have done in Jesus Christ and in us.

We give you thanks in Jesus' name...

You gave us the gift of your Spirit and promised that you would never forsake us.

Yet at times we have felt abandoned by you, because we have looked for you only in ways that fit our limited expectations or in tombs of dead traditions that have no power.

We forget that you are a living God. Lord, forgive us...

Help us, Lord Jesus, to see you through the eyes of faith. Help us to encounter You wherever You choose to meet us.

Open our hearts to Your presence even now and in every situation we face

May the power that raised Jesus from the dead flow into our lives bringing life and every new possibility...

And now we pray the prayer Jesus 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.

Choir Song ~ "Sing and Shout the Good News Today"

Song ~ "He Lives!" (#226 in the blue hymnal)

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today
I know that he is living, whatever others say
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer
And just the time I need him, he's always near

Chorus

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

In all the world around me I see his loving care
And though my heart grows weary, I never will despair
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast
The day of his appearing will come at last

Chorus

Rejoice, rejoice, O 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

Chorus

Words and Music ~ Alfred H. Ackley, 1933 | The Rodeheaver Co.

Sermon Introduction ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons



Scripture ~ John 20:1-20 (NIV) read by Dottie Sundquist

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark,
Mary Magdalene went to the tomb
and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple,
the one Jesus loved, and said,
"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we don't know where they have put him!"

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.

⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter
and reached the tomb first.

⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb.

He saw the strips of linen lying there,

⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head.

The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen.

⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)
¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying.
As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb
and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"
"They have taken my Lord away," she said,
"and I don't know where they have put him."

(Continued on the next page)

At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.
He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?

Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said,

"Sir, if you have carried him away,
tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

16 Jesus said to her,

"Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!"

(which means "Teacher").

17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me,
for I have not yet ascended to the Father.
Go instead to my brothers and tell them,

'I am ascending to my Father and your Father,
to my God and your God."

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!"

And she told them that he had said these things to her.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"
After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Sermon ~ "From Tears to Joy"

Song ~ The worship team will lead us in singing

"Anastasis ~ O Praise the Name"

I cast my mind to Calvary, Where Jesus bled and died for me I see His wounds His hands His feet My Savior on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus

O praise the Name of the Lord our God O praise His Name forevermore For endless days we will sing Your praise Oh Lord, oh Lord, our God

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King

Chorus

He shall return in robes of white The blazing sun shall pierce the night And I will rise among the saints My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

(musical interlude)

Chorus

O Lord, oh Lord, our God

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Benediction ~ **Hebrews 13:20-21 (MSG)**