The Day of Resurrection

Online Worship Bulletin April 12, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed. God is alive.. New birth is given. Hope is alive... A new age is dawning.

OPENING PRAYER

O Life-giving God, your love for your children knows no boundaries. In Jesus Christ your Son, you have gone the full distance, even into the shadows of death, to find us, redeem us, and bring us back to life. Fill our hearts with joyous praise, even as we still may struggle to see life in the midst of its own shadows, so that as we proclaim your greatest good news this day we may bring glory to you and new hope to your world. We pray this in your risen Son's name.

Amen.

HYMN

MN Jesus Christ Is Risen Today Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia! Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

EASTER LITANY

Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty and terror; you gave birth to all that we know. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a cradle announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: you shouldered and suffered the cross. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and destroyed you. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

This morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us; so we pray,

Lord, bring new life, where we are worn and tired; new love, where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness, where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit, where we are prisoners of ourselves.

(a brief moment of silence)

To all and to each, on his community and on his friends, where regret is real, Jesus pronounces his pardon and grants us the right to begin again. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 28:1-10

SERMON

An Earthquake During A Pandemic

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the Root of all living, Creator of all things.

We live in Christ Jesus, God's Son, who loved all people and who makes us one in his love. He suffered and died, and was raised to new life. In his death and resurrection we are also raised to life that is transformed. Christ is our Vine, and we are his branches; and without him we cannot live.

We live by the Holy Spirit, flowing through us so that we may bear fruit for God, the fruit of love. In the Spirit we are one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. We trust in the one holy church, the communing of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the mystery of resurrection, and the grace of eternal life. Amen. (By Rev. Steven Garnaas-Holmes)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HYMN Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, he comes to claim the here and now, and conquer every place and time.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age, till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love and praise.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Call to Worship and the Opening Prayer are by Rev. David Chafin, a Disciples of Christ minister, for the *lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com* website. The Easter Litany is from the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.