

RESURRECTION SUNDAY
APRIL 4, 2021
1st Presbyterian of Rockaway

Join Zoom Worship

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE **“Because He Lives”**

Words & Music by William J. Gaither & Gloria Gaither
Arranged by John Purifoy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Christ, in your resurrection, the heavens and the earth rejoice. Alleluia! By your resurrection you broke open the gates of hell, and destroyed sin and death.

Keep us victorious over sin.

By your resurrection you raised the dead, and brought us from death to life.

Guide us in the way of eternal life.

By your resurrection you confounded your enemies, and filled the disciples with joy.

Give us joy in your service.

By your resurrection you proclaimed good news to the women and apostles, and brought salvation to the whole world.

Direct our lives as your new creation.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the dust of death you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

HYMN 232**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!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love, Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another, certain of God's mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-knowing, all-powerful God, we confess that, even on this most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to your followers and your constant presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

By the grace and mercy of God, our sins are forgiven and we are reconciled to God and to one another through our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

CHOIR ANTHEM**"Glorious Risen Christ!"**

Words by David Burke
Music by Lloyd Larson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our eyes and soften our hearts, O God, through the work of your Holy Spirit, that in the hearing of your Word we may receive new life.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

ISAIAH 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

PSALM 118:1-2. 14-24

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

² **Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures forever.'**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **There are glad 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 punished me severely, but he did not give 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.

²¹ **I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ **This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. * 'His steadfast love endures forever.'

MARK 16:1-11

16 When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples

and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

THE SHORTER ENDING OF MARK

And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

THE LONGER ENDING OF MARK

⁹[Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

SERMON THE REST OF THE STORY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A *Brief Statement of Faith*, 1993)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

HYMN 240 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth; Jesus has died and has risen.

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever.

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

HYMN 526 LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:

Bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,

Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Refrain

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves
abound!**

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around, loaves
abound!**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Like a parent God has held us,

Our God has calmed and quieted our fears!

Bless God's holy name.

And do not forget all God has done.

God our Creator brought forth the world, the Word that is Christ summoned light, called up the waters and the land and all that lives upon the earth. Lord of all, you created us, gave us breath and speech that we may celebrate the creation you call good.

Creator God, we give you thanks for your constant presence with us through all the ages. In your mercy, you have guided us from darkness to light. You have called us your children and promise never to abandon us.

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The body broken is restored to wholeness; lifeblood poured out brings healing to our world.

Gracious God, you came to be among us, to know our joys and our despair, to heal the sick, to satisfy the hungry. For our sakes you suffered, you offered life to sinners, and with a love stronger than death, you gave yourself for us.

Holy Spirit, you come to us with power and energy and hope. May you move over these earthly gifts of bread and cup, that we may partake of this meal and become one with our Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus comes again, may we be found in prayer, living in love, and faithfully breaking bread with one another. Then all people will sing the praises of God.

We will sing the praises of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN 268 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS
Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou has died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Crown Him with Many Crowns” Diademata
By Matthew Bridges and George J. Elvey
Arranged by Bill Wolaver

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- Mail your donation to:
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35 Church St.
Rockaway, NJ 07866

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SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Time: 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

We will not meet April 11 but will start a new study on April 18. We will be reading *The Bible Tells Me So...Why Defending Scripture Has Made Us Unable to Read It* by Peter Enns.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86468468691?pwd=Z3ZNNzJabHdKaFNOTjhrOEVBVXlqdz09>

Meeting ID: 864 6846 8691

Passcode: 31716

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Pastor Nancy will be on vacation April 5 – 22. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the church office. We are grateful for Joe Martinoni and Carl Kline, who are sharing their gifts as preachers for April 11 and 18. Thank you!