

# **RESURRECTION SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

## ***Know the Risen Christ***

**Congregational Song:** Christ the Lord is Risen today

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Dying once he all doth save, Alleluia!  
Where thy 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!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

**Opening Welcome & Corporate Acclamation of the Resurrection:** [Pastor Steve]

**Leader:**

The Lord is risen!

**Congregation:**

He is risen indeed!

**Leader:**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone

**Congregation:**

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes!

**Leader:**

Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the Scriptures

**Congregation:**

He was buried, and he was raised on the third day, in accordance with the Scriptures

**Leader:**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep

**Congregation:**

For as by man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead

**Leader:**

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. This is the day that the Lord has made

**Congregation:**

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

**Leader:**

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law

**Congregation:**

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Leader:**

The Lord is risen

**Congregation:**

He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

**Congregational Song:** Christ our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death?  
Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence?  
That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?  
What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end?  
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*O sing hallelujah!*

*Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul?  
God is good, God is good.  
Where is His grace and goodness known?  
In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?  
Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

*O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?  
"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring?  
Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy,  
When Christ is ours forevermore.

*O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

*O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
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Christ our hope in life and death.*

*Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

## **THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS**

This morning as we both celebrate and contemplate the resurrection of Jesus, we must begin with thinking about the glory of his death. Resurrection cannot happen unless there is death. But why would we rejoice in and be thankful for death? How could a cross, an abhorrent Roman method of public and shameful execution be something wonderful? This glorious paradox, God takes that which is shameful and makes it glorious. He turns defeat into victory. He took that which was meant by the world to be shameful and made it something that is magnificent. Jesus demonstrates through his life that real exaltation comes as the result of humility. Let's remember what Paul writes in Philippians 2 as he puts this concept on full display:

### **Philippians 2: 5-11**

*<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Let us linger at Calvary, and over the precious blood he spilled for us. May we do so with eyes opened and illumined by his Spirit as we see beyond the horror of this gruesome execution to the glory of what he obtained for us.

### **Congregational Song: Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I find a place to stand,  
And wonder at such mercy  
That calls me as I am;  
For hands that should discard me  
Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus

His family is my own  
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,  
Now one through grace alone.  
How could I now dishonor  
The ones that You have loved?  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
The path before the crown  
We follow in His footsteps  
Where promised hope is found.  
How great the joy before us  
To be His perfect bride;  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
We will gladly live our lives.

#### **Mark 15:21-41**

*<sup>21</sup> And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. <sup>22</sup> And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). <sup>23</sup> And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup> And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. <sup>25</sup> And it was the third hour when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup> And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup> And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>28</sup> And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, <sup>29</sup> save yourself, and come down from the cross!" <sup>30</sup> So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>31</sup> Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.*

*<sup>32</sup> And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. <sup>33</sup> And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>34</sup> And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." <sup>35</sup> And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." <sup>36</sup> And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>37</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>38</sup> And*

*when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"*

*<sup>40</sup> There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. <sup>41</sup> When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.*

Imagine standing beneath the cross: What would it have looked like realize that everything you put hope in was dying. That realization that even though he could have, he was not going to come down from the cross. This was the plan of God. It should cause us to be stirred by its significance. Have you ever been at the cross? Not literally, but emotionally and empathetically? Have you stood there and watched, seen and been gripped by the wonder of the crucifixion? When we consider that Jesus gave his life for you, it should cause you to tremble with a holy awe and it should instill faith and worship in your heart.

**Solo:** Were You There? [Richard Joseph]

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?  
Were you there?

**Congregational Song:** Jesus Paid it All

I hear the Savior say  
Thy strength indeed is small  
Child of weakness, watch and pray  
Find in Me thine all in all

*Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe*

*Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow*

Lord, now indeed I find  
Thy power and Thine alone  
Can change the leper's spots  
and melt the heart of stone

*Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow*

For nothing good have I  
Whereby Thy grace to claim,  
I'll wash my garments white  
In the blood of Calvary's Lamb.

*Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow*

And when before the throne  
I stand in Him complete  
Jesus died my soul to save  
my lips shall still repeat

*Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow*

## **THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

What is so profound to us about the Resurrection of Jesus? It is that victory comes from defeat. Life comes from death. Jesus comes out of a grave. Indeed, this is a wondrous mystery.

**Congregational Song:** Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
in the dawning of the King.

He the theme of heaven's praises  
robed in frail humanity.

In our longing, in our darkness  
now the light of life has come.  
Look to Christ, who condescended  
took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
He the perfect Son of Man.  
In His living, in His suffering  
never trace nor stain of sin.

See the true and better Adam  
come to save the hell-bound man.  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Christ the Lord upon the tree.  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
hangs the Lamb in victory.

See the price of our redemption;  
see the Father's plan unfold.  
Bringing many sons to glory  
grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery;  
slain by death the God of life.  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him;  
praise the Lord; He is alive!

What a foretaste of deliverance;  
how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected  
as we will be when he comes.

What a foretaste of deliverance;  
how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected  
as we will be when he comes.



## Matthew 28:1-10

*Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." <sup>8</sup> So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."*

### **Congregational Song:** Christ Arose

Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,  
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

*Up from the grave he arose;  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior,  
vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!

*Up from the grave he arose;  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
he arose a victor from the dark domain,  
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;  
he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!

*Up from the grave he arose;  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
he arose a victor from the dark domain,*

*and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

## THE EXALTATION & REIGN OF JESUS

The resurrection is glorious not only because it marked the defeat of sin and death, but because it also inaugurated the ascension and reign of Jesus Christ, where he is now exalted, sitting at the right hand of God. In Acts 1:8-11, we have the account of Jesus leaving this earth and ascending into heaven.

*<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”<sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,<sup>11</sup> and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”*

<sup>1</sup>What does it mean when we say that Jesus is “exalted” at God’s right hand? Perhaps you’ve thought of this in terms of our exalting him. We exalt him in our praises. We exalt Jesus when we declare his worth and speak of his greatness, and sing words of praise. Truly, a central aspect of what it means to be a Christian is that Christ is our Lord, and we exalt him in our worship and with our lives.

But when we say that Jesus is “exalted,” the first and most important truth to draw attention to isn’t that **we** exalt him but that **God** exalts him: welcoming him to sit, as king, on the very throne of heaven. As Philippians 2:9 says, “God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.” First God exalts him – and then we follow suit.

God has now crowned him King of all kings, at the very apex of the universe, not just as God but as man. The man Christ Jesus sits in the very seat of God, and “He must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet” (I Corinthians 15:25). This is what it means, first and foremost, that “he is exalted.” He rose from the dead. He ascended to heaven. And the Father has highly exalted his Son to the very highest of places. The Ancient of Days has acknowledged the fullness and completeness of the work of His Son, the God-man, and has raised him to the throne at his right hand.

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<sup>1</sup>This section on the Exaltation of Jesus is adapted from Rich Wounds: The Countless Treasures of the Life, Death, and Triumph of Jesus by David Mathis [pp 107-111]

And in response to this thunderclap of God exalting his Son, we chime in with our whispers of exaltation. God has exalted His Son to the highest of heights, that we might catch a glimpse of such glory and echo our exaltation in our words and songs of praise.

**Congregational Song:** Crown Him with Many Crowns

➤ **Children 3-K5 dismissed during song**

Crown Him with many crowns,  
The lamb upon His throne;  
Hark! How the heav'nly 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 life,  
Who triumphed o'er the grave,  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save;  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high,  
Who died, eternal life to bring,  
And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Son of God  
Before the worlds began,  
And ye who tread where He hath trod  
Crown Him the Son of Man.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For Thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail  
Throughout eternity.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For Thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail  
Throughout eternity.

**Congregational Song:** He is Lord

He is Lord, He is Lord!  
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!  
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

He is Lord, He is Lord!  
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!  
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

**Message:** Philippians 3 – Know the Risen Christ [Pastor Steve]

**Closing Song:** The Risen Christ

O Breath of God come fill this place  
Revive our hearts to know Your grace  
And from our slumber make us rise  
That we may know the risen Christ

O Word of God so clear and true  
Renew our minds to trust in You  
And give to us the Bread of Life  
That we may know the risen Christ

O love of God so unrestrained  
Refresh our souls in Jesus' name  
Let us reflect Your sacrifice  
That we may know the risen Christ

May God the Father God the Son  
And God the Spirit make us one  
In holiness let us unite  
That we may know the risen Christ

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