

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021

GATHERING HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Alleluia!
Sing ye heavens and earth reply. Alleluia!
2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise: Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died, our souls to save: Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
4. 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!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Author: Charles Wesley
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CALL TO WORSHIP

1 Corinthians 15:14, 20, 55-56

- Leader: If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
- People: **But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**
- Leader: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"
- People: **The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

In Tenderness

1. In tenderness He sought me
Weary and sick with sin,
And on His shoulders brought me
Back to His fold again,
While angels in His presence sang
Until the courts of heaven rang.

Chorus

O - o - oh the love that sought me
O - o - oh the blood that bought me
Oh the grace that brought me to the fold of God
Grace that brought me to the fold of God.

2. He died for me while I was sinning
Needy and poor and blind.
He whispered to assure me
"I've found thee; thou art Mine."
I never heard a sweeter voice.
It made my aching heart rejoice.
Chorus

3. Upon His grace I'll daily ponder
And sing anew His praise
With all adoring wonder
His blessings I'll retrace.
It seems as if eternal days
Are far too short to sing His praise.
Chorus x2

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, you declare that we have been raised with Christ. You assure us that when he appears, we will appear with him in glory. Therefore, you tell us to set our minds on things that are above, where Christ is seated, at your right hand. You call us to count ourselves dead to sin. But we have failed to put to death our impurity, evil desire, and covetousness. We have not put away anger, wrath, malice, and slander. We are satisfied with our old selves and its practices. Forgive us. And through your Spirit, enable us to live more and more according to the new likeness in Christ, putting on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. As you have forgiven us, may we also forgive, doing all things in the name of the Lord Jesus.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 25:8

He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Swallowed Up Death

1. The whole of nature groans with longing,
We ache for that promised glory;
Still we rejoice because we know
Plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2. The whole of nature groans with longing,
We wait for that promised glory;
Still we rejoice because we know
Our sorrow's end is coming.

Chorus

He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces;
He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces;
We'll sing: "This is our God we've waited for and he saved us!"
He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from our faces.

3. Here in the darkness of our mourning,
We wait for the Light that's coming,
And on that day we will return
With joy and gladness singing:
Chorus

Behold, your God. He will come and save you (6X)
Chorus

Megan and Luke Pettipooles, David Potter
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SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7:36-50

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. ³⁷ And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸ and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹ "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." ⁴⁸ And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

SERMON

“Who is This, Who Even Forgives Sins?”
- Rev. Bryan Rigg

COMMUNION SONG

1. Man of sorrows, Lamb of God,
By His own betrayed;
The sin of man and wrath of God
Has been on Jesus laid.

2. Silent as He stood accused,
Beaten mocked and scorned;
Bowing to the Father's will,
He took a crown of thorns.

Chorus

Oh, that rugged cross, my salvation,
Where Your love poured out over me;
Now my soul cries out, 'Hallelujah!
Praise and honour unto Thee!'

3. Sent of heaven, God's own Son,
To purchase and redeem
And reconcile the very ones
Who nailed Him to that tree.

Chorus

Man of Sorrows

Bridge

Now my debt is paid,
It is paid in full,
By the precious blood
That my Jesus spilled;
Now the curse of sin
Has no hold on me;
Whom the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed!

REPEAT

Chorus

4. See the stone is rolled away,
Behold the empty tomb;
Hallelujah, God be praised!
He's risen from the grave!

Chorus

Praise and honour unto Thee,
Praise and honour unto Thee

Authors: Brooke Ligertwood / Matt Crocker
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CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG OF RESPONSE

1. Let no one caught in sin remain
Inside the lie of inward shame,
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him, who showed great love
And bled for us;
Freely You've bled for us.

Chorus

Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death;
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave!
Christ is risen from the dead,
We are one with Him again;
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave!

2. Beneath the weight of all our sin,
You bowed to none but heaven's will;
No scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown,
No burden great can hold You down.
In strength You reign,
Forever let Your church proclaim:
Chorus

BENEDICTION

Christ is Risen

Bridge

O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light.
The glory of God has defeated the night.
O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light.
Our God is not dead;
He's alive! He's alive!
Chorus 2X

*Authors: Matt Maher / Mia Fieldes
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Hebrews 13:20-21

²⁰Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

POSTLUDE

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