

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY • APRIL 16, 2017 • 10:30 AM

GATHERING HYMN Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Musicians: "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Sons of men and angels say
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Sing ye heav'ns and earth reply
Lives again our glorious King, Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save. Where thy victory, O grave?

He is risen. He is risen, indeed!
He is risen. He is risen, indeed!
He is risen. He is risen, indeed!
"Christ is risen!" This is our creed.

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Congregation: 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!

CALL TO WORSHIP 1 Corinthians 15:14, 20, 55-56

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: "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

HYMNS OF PRAISE In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death;
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Authors: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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Man of Sorrows

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

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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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 He Will Swallow 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 2X

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING **Christ is Risen**

*(Children ages 4-5 are dismissed for "Equip for Worship" during the last stanza.
Visitors' children are welcome.)*

*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*

*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*

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*

(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
Singing, 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*

SCRIPTURE READING **Acts 17:16-34**

See Insert

SERMON **"The Resurrection is Incredible. But in What Sense?"**

- Rev. Rob Edwards

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD **Job 19:25**

Pastor: For I know that my Redeemer lives.

People: And at the last he will stand upon the earth.

Pastor: He is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

SONG OF RESPONSE **Jesus Has Risen**

*1. Jesus has risen, He has risen indeed
Jesus has spoken His name for all our needs
Jesus is walking full of wounds and full of grace
Turn to this Redeemer, His blood to make your place*

Chorus: Men: He is risen (women: Alleluia...)

Men: He is reigning (Alleluia...)

Men: He is ruling (Alleluia...)

Men: He is King of Kings (Alleluia...)

Repeat All

*2. Let the echoes of the empty tomb rise up in our praise
Let the shadows of the empty cross remind us He is raised.
Let the fervent prayers of the gathered saints urge us in the fight
Let the peace of Christ when spoken out fill us with His might.*

Chorus 2X

Jesus has risen, He has risen indeed

Words & Music: Bruce Benedict, 2010

BENEDICTION **Hebrews 13:20-21**

²⁰ Now 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, ²¹ equip 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!

POSTLUDE

Mercy
Presbyterian Church

*"Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
Once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy."
I Peter 2:10*

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