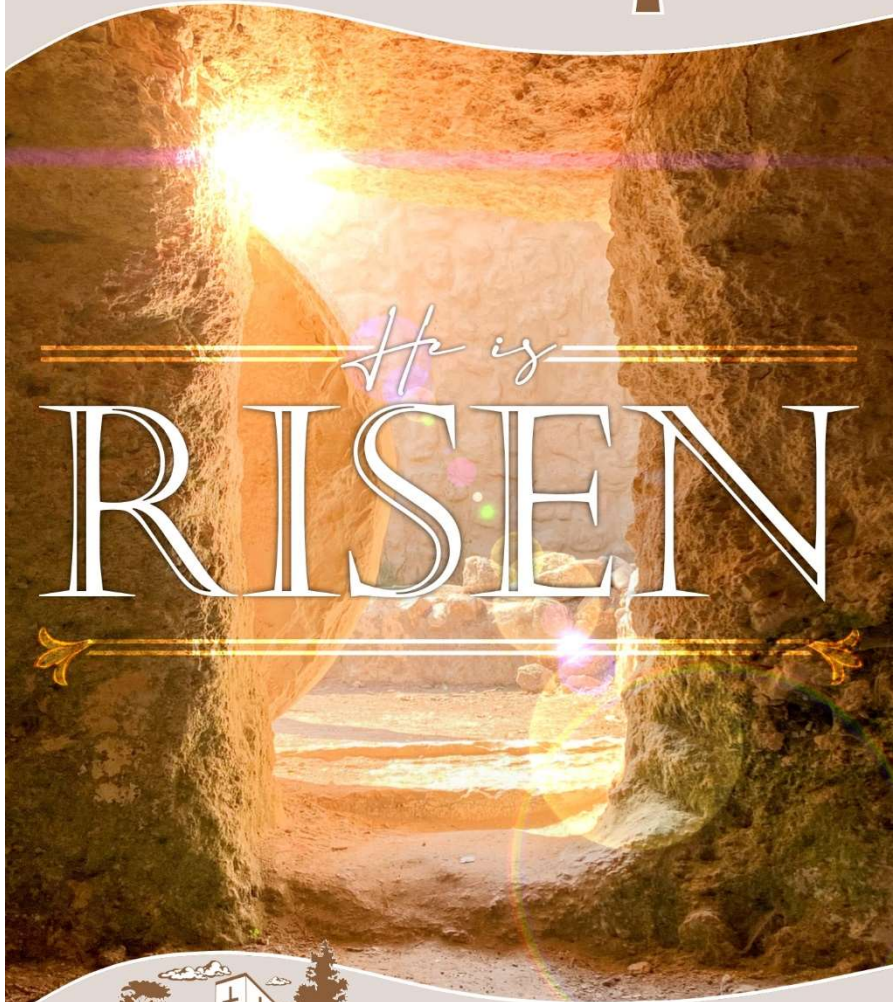


April 17, 2022
Easter



He is
RISEN



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✠ Order of Service ✠



First Lesson

At the Empty Tomb

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. Very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away; for it was very large. Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

Then they (the other women) went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you. He is not here, but is risen!

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; April 18-23, '22

Mon Exodus 15:1-11 Easter and Exodus don't seem to belong together, but there's more than one exodus. The enslavement of Hebrews in Egypt resembles other slaveries—such as slavery to Satan and sin. So, God's grace and mercy in the Old Testament Exodus foreshadows Jesus' exit from the grave, *dashing that enemy in pieces and overthrowing those that rage against Jesus. Who is like You, O LORD, glorious in holiness, doing wonders!*

Tues John 20:1-18 Mary panicked; Peter and John were more stable, but none of them figured it out that Jesus was gone because He was alive and fully functional to exit the grave on His own power. So, somebody had to connect the dots for them, which Jesus did first-hand and face-to-face (11-16). Come quickly, Lord Jesus, face-to-face with us as well!

Wed Colossians 3:1-4 We are like Jesus in that we have been raised from the dead, too (1). From that starting point, much of *our life lies hidden* beyond our vision and our sensory faculties. [Just as atoms, electricity, gravity, and magnetism are puzzles to scientists.] But when Jesus comes back into the framework of our space-time continuum, then *we also will appear with Him, side-by-side and hand-in-hand, in glory.* Hallelujah!

Thurs Isaiah 25:6-9 God put Isaiah into a projection booth above the theater audience and let him enlighten his generation with God's grace for exiled Semites. Then the LORD reeled off His scenario for all generations yet to be born—a time of prosperity for everyone (6-7) with Easter blessings lasting to Judgment Day (8)—thus prompting our response of expectant faith (9).

Fri Luke 24:1-12 *Perplexed, afraid, and disbelieving* are momentary responses especially when we face the unknown. So, when we face the anomaly of His apex miracle, God pokes us to remember how He spoke to us when He was still in Galilee, saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." May God's Holy Spirit turn our momentary weaknesses into trusting His Word on this subject.

Sat 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 God confronts us with His plans and deeds via the Holy Bible, where we have His word on it that *Christ died for our sins*, exactly as He had promised throughout the centuries. Otherwise, it's all a *mystery* to us. Since Jesus safely and wonderfully exited the other side of the cemetery, God promises to do the same for us. Trust God's love to use His power, His skill, His resources, His good-hearted nature, etc., to *give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* With all that going for us, we can be *steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.*

Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" And they remembered His words. So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

Soloist

"Christ is Arisen"

P In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

Resurrection Proclamation

1 Corinthians 15; John 20

P Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. ... But if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty

C and our faith is also empty.

P For if the dead do not rise,

C then Christ is not risen.

P And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile;

C We are still in our sins!

P But now Christ is risen from the dead,

C and has become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

P For as in Adam all die,

C even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

P Peace to you! Receive the Holy Spirit. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed.

C Glory be to You, My Lord and My God!

P He is risen!

C He is risen indeed!



Second Lesson

In the Garden

Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying

there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not



know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She

said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ **The Distribution of the Lord's Supper** ✠

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G *♫ Amen, amen, a – men.*

Welcome! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book in the back of the church. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach.

April 10th Offerings:	\$ 1,192.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$19,822.16
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$24,556.22
Total Cash All Funds	\$60,416.76

P Christ is arisen!

C ♪ **He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord; The gates of heav’n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die, And Satan’s arrows broken lie, Destroyed hell’s direst weapon. Oh, hear What cheer! Christ victorious Riseth glorious, Life He giveth—He was dead, but see, He liveth!**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #200:1,2,7,8 “I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

✠ Easter Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

HYMN: WS #799 “This is the Feast of Victory”

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. We thank you for Your steadfast love which has brought up our Lord from the dead and delivered us from death and the devil. Graciously receive our prayers that we might be renewed, strengthened, and delivered from all evil. Amen.

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C We have blessed Him from the house of the Lord.

The Words of Institution Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

Third Lesson

On the Road to Emmaus

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” He asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged



him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Confession of Faith

Easter Creed

I believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, Lord of lords and Savior of the fallen world. I believe that He is the Word made flesh, Who came to earth to redeem all sinners. He was born under the Law, to fulfill all of God's commandments on my behalf. He was crucified at the hands of sinful men, and endured all the punishment that I and all sinners deserved, to fully satisfy the justice of God. He died and was buried.

I believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead, as the prophets foretold and as He himself promised. Proved by the inspired Scriptures and by many eyewitnesses, Jesus' resurrection shows that He is God's Son, that His mission of salvation is complete, and that He has triumphed over death, our last great enemy.

With this victory, Christ has become our forerunner, the first-fruits of all who sleep in Him. Because He rose, I and all who trust in His redeeming work shall rise to eternal glory on the Last Day. Because He lives, I too shall live. For He has promised me: "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." Amen.

Hymn: TLH #201:1,4,5

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

Fourth Lesson

Behind Closed Doors

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself!



Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took

it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Hymn: TLH #736

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

Easter Meditation – Matthew 28:5-7 The angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷ "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead."

Good Advice from the Easter Angel

- I. "Don't be afraid."
- II. "Look at the evidence."
- III. "Go forth with the message."