

Dawn Service

easter
at true north



Call to Worship

LEADER: Hushed footsteps and subdued voices approach the tomb with ointment and spices for the dead, approach with caution and dread.

ALL: Christ is alive! His tomb is empty!

LEADER: Joy is unbound, only the signs of death remain, the wrappings and trappings of darkness and fear. Where have they taken the body?

ALL: Christ is alive! Death could not hold Him!

LEADER: Christ is risen, going on before us to Galilee and our town, walking on our streets and hiking up our paths. He's not far off and remote, but near at hand in our lives. Run, walk, whisper and shout, tell the Good News to all. Christ is Alive!

ALL: Christ is alive! Let us rejoice!

Opening Prayer

LEADER: Holy God, as once long ago you turned a gray dawn into a alleluia, so come to us this morning and turn our sadness into joy. The rock is rolled away! The tomb is empty! We've come to celebrate the rolling stone and to ask you to roll the stone away in our lives to allow the resurrection of ourselves as new creations in Jesus Christ to come forth. Christ is risen!

ALL: He is risen indeed!

Holy Holy Holy

Holy holy holy
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

Holy holy holy
All the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden
crowns
Around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before Thee
Which wert and art
And evermore shalt be
Holy holy holy
Though the darkness hide
Thee
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy
There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power
In love and purity

Holy holy holy
Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise
Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy holy holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

Scripture Reading

MATTHEW 28:1-10

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Man of Sorrows

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

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

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

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

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

See the stone is rolled away
Behold the empty tomb
Hallelujah God be praised
He's risen from the grave

Responsive Reading

1 PETER 1:3

PHIL. 2:8-11

ROM. 10:8,9,12,13

ACTS 2:23-24

1 COR. 15:55,57

1 TIM. 1:17

LEADER: Christ is risen!

ALL: He is risen indeed.

LEADER: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

ALL: In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

LEADER: Being found in appearance as a man, Jesus humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

ALL: Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord.

LEADER: This is the message that we proclaim: If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

ALL: For the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

LEADER: Jesus was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan, and you put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross.

ALL: But God raised Him from the dead, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.

LEADER: Where, O death, is your victory?

ALL: Where, O death, is your sting?

LEADER: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet
the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm
found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my
heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace
appear
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God my Savior has
ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing
grace

The Lord has promised good
to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion
be
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve
like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here
below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Message

Communion

Prayer

LEADER: God of amazing surprises and powerful love. On this day we overflow with thanks and praise, for this is the day you have made, the day that fills us with both fear and great joy.

Your Easter victory is our sign of hope. Your Easter triumph is our promise of new beginnings. Your Easter alleluia is unexpected, undeserved and graciously welcomed. We need Easter for we, too, know loss and grief. We need your Easter – The promise that dawn brings new possibilities, the assurance that your love is stronger than death, the hope that every day might be touched by Easter joy. Our words seem too timid and our songs not loud enough to trumpet our joy, to express our alleluias. Let everyone feel the possibilities for living life surrounded by powerful love and surprising grace.

In the name of our Risen Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Oh Praise the Name

And then on the third at break
of dawn

The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is
your sting

The angels roar for Christ the
King

O praise the Name of the Lord
our God

O praise His Name
forevermore

For endless days we will sing
Your praise

Oh Lord oh Lord our God

He shall return in robes of
white

The blazing sun shall pierce
the night

And I will rise among the
saints

My gaze transfixed on Jesus'
face

O praise the Name of the Lord
our God

O praise His Name
forevermore

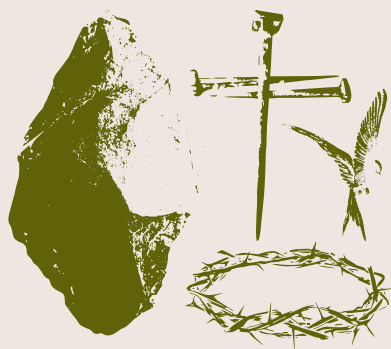
For endless days we will sing
Your praise

Oh Lord oh Lord our God

Blessing

LEADER: Go out now as God's chosen witnesses to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him. Set your minds on the things of God and do not be afraid for your life is safe with Christ in God. And may God raise you from all that would entomb you. May Christ Jesus be your life. And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good as you live in the knowledge that Christ has risen!

ALL: He has risen indeed!



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