

April 12, 2020
Easter Festival

Everything Turned Upside Down

As We Gather

For the followers of Jesus, Easter morning began with much fear and trepidation. The disciples were hiding for their lives. The women were anxious about how they would be able to accomplish their last act of loving service to their Lord. Their lives had all been turned upside down by the events of our Lord's passion. Yet, what they were about to witness would turn their lives upside down yet again, and not just their lives but the lives of all people whose lives have

been turned upside down by sin and death. As we gather in our homes because of a pandemic to celebrate Easter, we may also be approaching this day with much fear and trepidation. However, what we see as we fix our eyes on Jesus who was crucified and has risen shakes up our lives turning right side up all that has been turned upside down.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Hymn

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- △4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

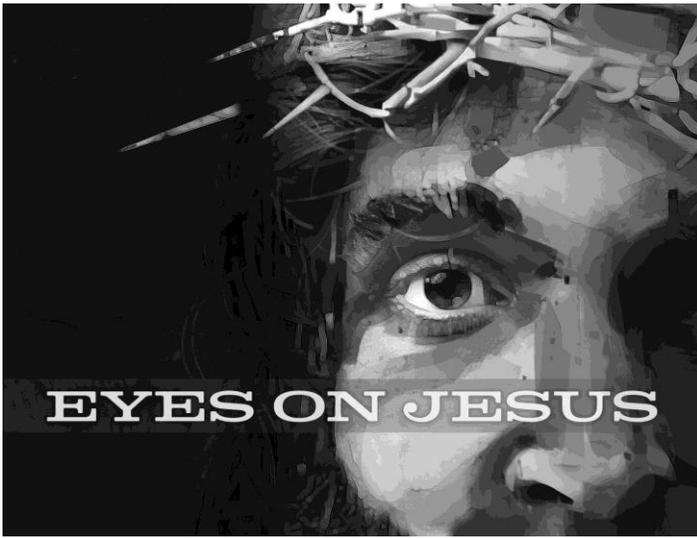
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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

- P** This is the day that the LORD has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*
P The LORD is God,
C and He has made His light to shine upon us. *Psalm 118:27*



Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.*
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father,
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** By becoming one of us to die for us, our Lord Jesus Christ paid for all our sins. When the Father raised Him on this glorious day, He showed all creation that He received that payment and nothing, even death itself, can stand between us and His gracious, eternal promises. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

+ WORD +

Kyrie

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That we may recognize the peace and salvation Easter brings, especially in this time of pandemic, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the world may see peace, the Church of God may enjoy vitality, and we may all be united in Easter faith even when we are unable to gather together physically, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house, and for all who respond to the resurrection in worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

822 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

- 1 Alleluia! Let praises ring!
To God the Father let us bring
Our songs of adoration.
To Him through everlasting days
Be worship, honor, pow'r, and praise,
Whose hand sustains creation.
Singing, ringing:
Holy, holy,
God is holy;
Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory.
- 2 Alleluia! Let praises ring!
Unto the Lamb of God we sing,

In whom we are elected.
He bought His Church with His own blood,
He cleansed her in that blessed flood,
And as His bride selected.
Holy, holy
Is our union
And communion.
His befriending
Gives us joy and peace unending.

3 Alleluia! Let praises ring!
Unto the Holy Ghost we sing
For our regeneration.
The saving faith in us He wrought
And us unto the Bridegroom brought,
Made us His chosen nation.
Glory! Glory!
Joy eternal,
Bliss supernal;
There is manna
And an endless, glad hosanna.

4 Alleluia! Let praises ring!
Unto our triune God we sing;
Blest be His name forever!
With angel hosts let us adore
And sing His praises evermore
For all His grace and favor!
Singing, ringing:
Holy, holy,
God is holy;
Spread the story
Of our God, the Lord of glory!

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Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life.
- C** We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever;
- P** through Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Job 19:23–27

- ²³“Oh that my words were written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
- ²⁴Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!
- ²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,
²⁷whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives (verses 1-4)

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:51–57

⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 118:15–29 (antiphon: v. 23)

- P** This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous:
- C** “**The right hand of the LORD does valiantly,**
- P** the right hand of the LORD exalts,
- C** **the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!”**
- P** I shall not die, but I shall live,
- C** **and recount the deeds of the LORD.**
- P** The LORD has disciplined me severely,

C but He has not given me over to death.
**THIS IS THE LORD'S DOING;
 IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.**

P Open to me the gates of righteousness,
C that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

P This is the gate of the LORD;
C the righteous shall enter through it.

P I thank You that You have answered me
 and have become my salvation.

C The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the cornerstone.
**THIS IS THE LORD'S DOING;
 IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.**

P This is the day that the LORD has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P Save us, we pray, O LORD!
C O LORD, we pray, give us success!

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
C We bless you from the house of the LORD.

P The LORD is God,
C and He has made His light to shine upon us.
**THIS IS THE LORD'S DOING;
 IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.**

P Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
C up to the horns of the altar!

P You are my God, and I will give thanks to You;
C You are my God; I will extol You.

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
C for His steadfast love endures forever!
**THIS IS THE LORD'S DOING;
 IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

P 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. ² 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. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel 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 has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ 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." ⁸ So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."
 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Hymn

478 The Day of Resurrection

- 1 The day of resurrection!
 Earth, tell it out abroad,
 The passover of gladness,
 The passover of God.
 From death to life eternal,
 From sin's dominion free,
 Our Christ has brought us over
 With hymns of victory.
- 2 Let hearts be purged of evil
 That we may see aright
 The Lord in rays eternal
 Of resurrection light
 And, list'ning to His accents,
 May hear, so calm and plain,
 His own "All hail!" and, hearing,
 May raise the victor strain.
- 3 Now let the heav'ns be joyful,
 Let earth its song begin,
 Let all the world keep triumph
 And all that is therein.
 Let all things, seen and unseen,
 Their notes of gladness blend;
 For Christ the Lord has risen,
 Our joy that has no end!
- △4 All praise to God the Father,
 All praise to God the Son,
 All praise to God the Spirit,
 Eternal Three in One!
 Let all the ransomed number
 Fall down before the throne
 And honor, pow'r, and glory
 Ascribe to God alone!

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Sermon

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;**

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for all people in their various needs and for the Church as it witnesses to our Lord's resurrection.
The women "were saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us?'" Let us pray for all whose work is tiring and laborious.
- C** **Lighten their load, O Lord, strengthen their bodies, and give them dignity in their efforts.**
- P** The angel said to them, "Do not be alarmed." Let us pray for all who awaken this day in fear of sickness and pandemic, violence, discrimination, or injustice.
- C** **Accompany them, risen Lord; graciously protect them and strengthen them until they find days of peace and security.**
- P** The angel invited the women, "See the place where they laid Him." Let us pray for all in hospitals and nursing homes and for those who wish they could visit them now but are unable because of the pandemic, as well as all who visit cemeteries on this holy day. We pray especially for...
- C** **Dry the eyes of those who mourn, O Holy Spirit, through their resurrection faith. Give comforting words to those who visit, perseverance to those who are ill, and skill and protection to health workers in all professions.**
- P** Then he urged them, "Go, tell His disciples." Let us pray for all who carry the news of Christ's victory over death to their neighborhoods and to nations around the world.
- C** **Lord Jesus, protect, guide, and bless our brothers and sisters who announce the resurrection in the company of those who gather with them around Word and Sacrament and then carry it with them as Your messengers to all they meet, near and far.**
- P** Job wrote, "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book!" Let us pray for those who write constitutions and laws, all who maintain order in society, and everyone in harm's way especially at the time of this Coronavirus pandemic.
- C** **O almighty God, give wisdom to those who deliberate in houses of government, courage to those who respond to conflict in their communities, and protection to men and women deployed in the defense of freedom around the world.**
- P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.
- C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P The blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who sent His Son to certain death in order to give us life, the Son, who left the tomb empty on this day of His rising, and the Holy Spirit, who graciously enables us to be messengers of the resurrection—be upon you, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives (verses 5-8)

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

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Dismissal

P Go in peace as you serve our risen Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

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