

## Worship Plan for The Second Week of Easter C, April 24, 2022

### PRELUDE

#### A BRIEF LITANY OF GOD'S ACTS

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P In the beginning, before the beginning, there was only chaos and emptiness. No light. Literally no ground to stand upon—Alone and without life.

**C But God created all that is, seen and unseen, and has declared it good. Light, a firm foundation, life.**

P At the river's edge, Pharaoh's chariots hounded us.

We were penned in. There was no escape.

**C The seas have parted, we find ourselves safe on the other side.**

**We are freed!**

P We are sore, working mightily, for no pay. Away in a strange land. Where can we turn?

**C O' tired ones eat what is good, delight in the richness on offer.**

**Turn to the Lord!**

P It is claustrophobic. It is loud. The heat of the fiery furnace raises our blood pressure and adrenaline.

**C Find comfort, the LORD is with us. In the furnace with us—so that we will come out unharmed.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death,

**C so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.**

P For if we have been united with him in a death like his,

**C we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

HYMN LBW #132 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

All verses



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
4 For to - day a - mong the twelve Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry to our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en;  
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;  
his deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal.



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
comes to glad - den faith - ful hearts which with true af - fec - tion  
Neith - er could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,  
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
from his light, to whom is giv'n laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold him as a mor - tal.  
God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness!

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ① Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was  
slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ② Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ① Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and  
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and  
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ② For the Lamb who was  
slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY*

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

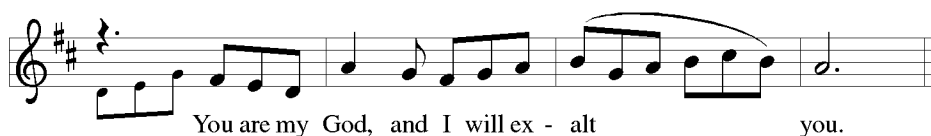
**First Reading: Acts 5:27-32**

When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 118**



The Lord is my strength | and my song,  
and has become | my salvation.

**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**

**"The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!**

The right hand of the Lord | is exalted!

The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!"

**I shall not | die, but live,**

**and declare the works | of the Lord. R**

The Lord indeed pun- | ished me sorely,  
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

**Open for me the | gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks | to the Lord.**

“This is the gate | of the Lord;  
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

**I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me  
and you have become | my salvation. R**

The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
has become the chief | cornerstone.

**By the Lord has | this been done;  
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

This is the day that the | Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

**Hosanna! | O Lord, save us!**

**We pray to you, Lord, pros- | per our days! R**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord;  
we bless you from the house | of the Lord.

**The Lord is God and has giv- | en us light.**

**Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.**

You are my God, and | I will thank you;  
you are my God, and I | will exalt you.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for the | Lord is good;  
God’s mercy en- | dures forever. R**

### **Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



P The Holy Gospel according to John the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.



**Gospel: John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 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.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY WOV#675 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"  
All verses

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

*NICENE CREED*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**



## *THE PRAYERS*

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Holy One who acts righteously, equip your church as witnesses of your goodness to go and tell others of your abundant love, that they may believe that Jesus is our salvation and life. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Renew your people's commitment to use resources responsibly and to live well with your creation. Invite us to recognize and nurture signs of resurrection life in the natural world. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and compassion. By your Holy Spirit channel their attention toward serving those who are most in need. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Uphold your children who cry out to you (especially). Wherever people are overcome by the fear of death, breathe into them your life and peace. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire those who lead your people in worship and praise (especially the art and music ministries of this congregation). With joyful motion and sound, send us forth with praise that we cannot keep to ourselves. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Give us the words of your saints who, like Thomas, boldly confessed your Son as Lord and God. With Jesus our leader, empower us to live according to his ways. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## OFFERING



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Let us pray,  
Merciful God,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

### *LORD'S PRAYER*

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### *BLESSING*

God, the Author of life,  
Christ, the living Cornerstone,  
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*HYMN*

LBW#145

“Thine Is the Glory”

*All verses*



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## *DISMISSAL*

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## *POSTLUDE*