

# Service for the Lord's Day

The Resurrection of the Lord

April 20, 2014

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*On that first Easter morning you ran out of death's shadows to gather us up in love. You left behind grave's garments to clothe us in grace. On this morning of celebration, our worries are transformed, our brokenness is made whole. Christ is risen! Amen.*

## Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

John Tieken

\*INTROIT # 246

**"Christ Is Alive!"** (v.1-2)

Wren, 1968

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Christ is risen!

***Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves.

***And it's true. It's true. Christ is risen!***

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now and always.***

Christ is risen!

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

\*HYMN #248

**"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"**

Wren, 1984

CALL TO CONFESSION

Sin clings to us as if we were its most precious possession. But just as death's grip on Jesus was broken on that first morning, so God will release us from the grasp of sin. Let us confess to the One who offers us resurrection life. Let us pray first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*On this first day of the week, as on all the other days, God of our lives, we confess. We wander in the shadows of temptation, ignoring the Light you offer to us. We are asked to proclaim the good news of life, but continue to speak the old words of despair. You try to anoint us with the Holy Spirit, but we put up the barricades of fear to keep it from touching us. You hear our prayers, and you answer us with forgiveness! On this morning of perfection, you give us new life. On this day of all days, we are transformed from mourners*

*into witnesses of the resurrection. In the days to come, we will run to share the good news that Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is alive and in our midst. Thank you again, Precious Lord.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

***"Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

What a day! Easter Day! God's dawn of new hope, new mercy, new life. In the name of our Risen Lord, in his name and in his name only, I declare to you, we are forgiven!

***On this first day and every day, we can walk as God's Easter people, forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to our Risen Savior! Amen.***

\*GLORIA PATRI ***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.***

#580

## Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 25: 6-9

Bibles, p.613 / LG. p. 798

The Word of the Lord

***Thanks be to God***

HYMN #254

**"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"**

Neale, 1852

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28: 1-10

Bibles, p.32/ LG. p.41

The Word of the Lord

***Thanks be to God***

SERMON

**"A Grave-Robbing God"**

Rev. Candice L. Klein

## Responding

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

***"In life and in death we belong to God. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This, we believe. Amen.***

—from A Brief Statement of Faith

