

Celebration of the Resurrection

April 1, 2018

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

Lord God, thank you for the miracle of Easter. Let us remember to keep living faithfully, though we don't fully understand your ways. Amen

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

John Bruce Hillin

*INTROIT #232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (v.1)

Wesley, 1740

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN #232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (v.1-4)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another; certain of God's mercy. Let us confess our transgressions, first silently, then with our Unison Prayer of Confession.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-knowing, all-powerful God, we confess that, even on this most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your stunning presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. The rejected cornerstone has become your strength and your song. Today, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, who lives and reigns as Mother of us all, now and forever.

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

ANTHEM

"Fairest Lord Jesus"
(Chancel Choir)

Dick Bolks

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

John 20:1-18
The Word of the Lord

Bibles, p.108/LG. p.140

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

"Risen Today"
(Bert Lowe, Soloist)

William Cutter

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:1-2
The Word of God, for the People of God

Bibles, p.2/ LG. p.3

Thanks be to God

SERMON

Steve Miller

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. 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. This, we believe.

- A Brief Statement of Faith 10.2

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY Selected

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sending

*HYMN #240 *“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (v.1-3)* Fishel, 1971

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #240 *“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (v.4)*

POSTLUDE Selected

(*) Those who are able may stand.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Steve Miller is not new to East Texas, as he attended school here. From Henderson, he graduated Texas A&M University with a Master in Business, and worked in banking in Houston for a number of years. Then, in recent years, Steve received a Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. As an evangelist, he founded the United States Christian Leadership Organization and is dedicated to achieving racial harmony and equality through spreading the love of Christ and building relationships. Steve is married to Kim, and they have two wonderful children, Gabby and Kennedy. Please take time following worship to visit with Steve and his lovely family.

This week's prayers and concerns: Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Bob Schauwecker, Patsy Snelgrove, Billy Tapley, and Sue Williams.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon. 04/02	Church Offices Closed
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