

Resurrection Sunday, March 23, 2008
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM

Children's Singing – He's Alive Again!

Welcome to Communion Presbyterian! (Announcements)

- ♦ Welcome to the worship and celebration of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ! ♦
- ♦ We invite our visitors to sign the Guest Book located on the entry table. Please also visit our information counter. ♦
- ♦ Children are invited to stay for the entire service; however, we also provide childcare for those who desire it. Please consult an attendant wearing a blue smock for assistance. ♦
- ♦ Today we will observe the Lord's Supper. This sacrament communicates the "true communion" that believers have with God and each other. By participating with us, you are proclaiming to be a baptized and professing disciple of Jesus Christ and a member in "good standing" of a Christian church, a repentant sinner, and a "hope-filled" saint; possessing the faith of a humble child – trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. ♦
- ♦ May the Lord be honored among us this day. ♦

Vows of Church Membership

Church members are required to make diligent use of the means of grace, to share faithfully in the worship and service of the Church, to give of their substance as the Lord may prosper them, to render wholehearted service to Christ and His Kingdom throughout the world, to continue in the peace and fellowship of the people of God, and to so live as to bear faithful witness to the Gospel.

Preparation for Worship & Canto – Resurrection Acclamation

***Call to Worship – Psalm 56:10–13**

Elder – *In God, Whose word I praise, in the LORD, Whose word I praise,*

Congregation – **In God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?**

Elder – *I must perform my vows to You, O God; I will render thank offerings to You.*

Congregation – **For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.**

***Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon**

Song – Rejoice, The Lord is King # 310

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore,
Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

The Lord Our Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains He took His seat above.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n,
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

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Old Testament Law – Genesis 2:7–15

(The LORD created the world with a special garden and He placed humankind there.)

Old Testament Prophet – Ezekiel 36:33–36

(Israel will return to a day of former glory, much like the day when God created the world.)

Reader – *The word of the Lord.* **Congregation** – **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn – O For a Glance of Heav'nly Day (Maryton)

O for a glance of heav'nly day, to take this stubborn heart away,
And thaw, with beams of love divine, this heart, this frozen heart of mine.

*Thy judgments, too, which devils fear – amazing thought, unmoved I hear;
Goodness & wrath in vain combine, to stir this stubborn heart of mine.*

But someone yet will do this deed; and that dear someone much I need.
Thy Spirit can from dross refine, and move & melt this heart of mine.

New Testament Gospel – John 19:30–20:10

(Mary and some of the disciples investigate the empty tomb of Jesus.)

New Testament Epistle – 1 Corinthians 15:1–14

(The gospel: The death, burial, & resurrection of Christ, is the core teaching of the church.)

Reader – *The word of the Lord.* **Congregation** – **Thanks be to God.**

Offertory – Rejoice He is Alive/Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart

[Presenting an offering to the Lord is a meaningful act of worship. It demonstrates the sacrifice of thankful hearts by those who have been blessed by Divine provisions! Please pass the offering basket throughout your section toward the back. Thank you.]

(The congregation will join the choir in song when directed.)

**Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing.**

Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism (1563); Q. 18 & 19

Elder – *Who is this mediator who is at the same time true God and a true and perfectly righteous man?*

Congregation – **Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is freely given to us for complete redemption and righteousness.**

Elder – *How do you know this?*

Congregation – **From the holy gospel, which God Himself revealed in the beginning in the Garden of Eden, afterward proclaimed through the holy patriarchs and prophets and foreshadowed through the sacrifices and other rites of the Old Covenant, and finally fulfilled through His Own well-beloved Son.**

***Song – God of Wonder**

Sing praise unto the Holy One, the Prince of Peace, the Risen Son.
Awesome is He!

The Lamb of God, His sacrifice; He shed His blood & laid down His life;
For all to see.

I give my heart – to whom I love and trust...

[Continued]

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*God of Wonder, God of Grace, I put my faith in You.
You've conquered death to bring me life,
I lift my praise to Thee.*

Sermon: Meeting the Gardener

(Text: John 20:10 – 18; message by: Rev. Kent Moorlach)

Pastoral Prayer with Lord's Prayer

Elder's Response

***Song of Preparation – O Mystery Great** (Woodworth)

O mystery great & glorious, that mortal flesh should conquer death;
And all our human pains & wounds, the Lord should heal by bearing them.

*Behold how man, though crushed by death, now does arise & live with Christ;
While death, repelled & robbed of might, dies from its own malignant sting.*

Groaning with joy is all creation; what is this mystery? Life anew!
Behold the cruel, bound tyrant, chained & man made free by Him who rose!

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The presiding minister will give direction for participation in this meal.
Please return the empty cup to the front basket when you have finished. Thank you.
{Wine is located on the table edge nearest to the cross. Grape juice is on the outside.}

***Closing Hymn – Christ, The Lord, is Risen Today # 277**

Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men & angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, & earth, reply, Alleluia!

*Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia! Christ hath burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia! Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!*

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross & grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem & save, Alleluia!

***Closing Prayer, Hymn & Doxology**

We saw Thee not when Thou didst come, to this poor world of sin & death;
Nor yet beheld Thy cottage home, in that despised Nazareth.

*We did not see Thee lifted high, amid that wild & savage crew;
Nor heard Thy meek, imploring cry, "Forgive, they know not what they do!"*

We stood not by the empty tomb, where late Thy sacred body lay;
Nor sat within that upper room, nor met Thee on the open way.

*But we believe that angels said, "Why seek the living with the dead?"
We now do trust Thy faithful word, and trust in our redeeming Lord;*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

***Benediction & Threefold "Amen"**

**Those who are able, please stand.* – CCLI #2831635

- ♦ Please remember to silence all your communication devices. Thank you ♦
- ♦ Please join us after the service for fellowship with a Family Egg Hunt and craft time ♦