



Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024



University Presbyterian Church

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Co-Pastor: Mamie Broadhurst
Choir Director: Ross Cawthon Organist: Anne Maverick Ministers: The people of this church

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GATHERING TOGETHER

*We invite you to gather quietly this morning, imagining that we are among
the group of women who come to the tomb just as dawn is breaking.*

CHORAL PRELUDE

*Christ Jessu lay in death's strong bands for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands and brings us life from heaven;
therefore let us joyful be, and sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of alleluia! Alleluia!*

*It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended;
the victory remained with life, the reign of death was ended;
stripped of power, no more he reigns, an empty form alone remains;
the night of sin is ended! Alleluia!*

Words by Martin Luther and Music by J.S. Bach

*HYMN No. 232

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Mikell

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsive*)

Holy God,

we come to the empty tomb and we begin to see what it means:
hope, triumph, light, love.

The resurrection also reveals our resistance to being Easter people.

Forgive us when we are alarmed

because you do not act as we expect.

Forgive us when we flee from your presence

or from the good news you declare.

Forgive us when we say nothing to anyone about you

for fear of what we will hear in response.

A TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

Transform our terror into awe and our silence into shouts of joy!

Death has been defeated. There is nothing more to fear!

In celebration of our risen Lord, we pray.

Alleluia! Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Hear the good news: Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

The tomb is empty, God has broken the hold of sin and death.

We are a forgiven people. Alleluia!

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Hymn 231 vs. 3

**Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been?
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 16:1-8

SERMON

Mamie Broadhurst

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

*HYMN No. 238

Thine is the Glory

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

**Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
 Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING of GIFTS

Reflect on your response to the work of Christ in the world today, and consider making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, on line giving is available. See the announcements for more information.

INVITATION

ANTHEM

O Death, Where is Thy Sting?

John Stainer

St. James Press, 2021

*O Death, where is thy sting?
 O Grave, where is thy victory?
 Thanks be to God, Hallelujah,
 Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory
 through our Lord Jesus Christ.
 Amen. Hallelujah. Amen.*

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
 Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Old Hundredth

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God,

accept what we offer today:

our time, our talents, our treasures,

our faltering steps, our worries, our uncertainty,

our hope, our courage, our lives.

Bless and transform all that we offer

and all that we hold back, that new life may be ours,

to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HALLELUJAH CHORUS

The congregation is invited to join in singing.

Copies of the score may be found at the end of the pews.

*CHARGE and BENEDECTION (*responsive*)

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bonds

J.S. Bach

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Thanks to Rev. Emma Nickel whose Prayer of Confession was adapted for our worship this morning. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license no. A-705298 unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved. | Cover art: *The Women at the Tomb* by Paul Oman | <https://www.drawn-to-the-word.com/>