

Worship Guide
April 11, 2021

Like young babies, we need the spiritual milk of God's Word to sustain and strengthen us. God feeds our faith and renews our hope with his promises. It's in His promises that we find the peace we so desperately seek.



CALL TO WORSHIP

P: God has set this day before us,

C: A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.

P: In this season of victory and rejoicing let us gather before God and worship in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

HYMN

This Joyful Eastertide

CW 160

♪ **This joyful Eastertide away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day
prison,
Our faith had been in vain.
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen,
But now is Christ arisen.**

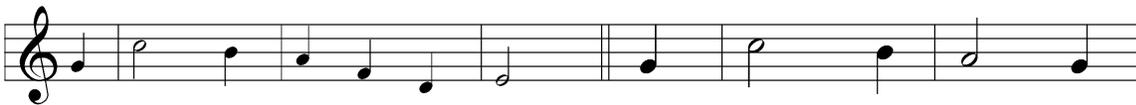
**Death's flood hath lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, who once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day
prison,
Our faith had been in vain.
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen,
But now is Christ arisen.**



CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Dear friends, God promises that if we confess our sins to Him, he is faithful and just and will forgive us. Let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

ALL: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I am sinful by nature and have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my own fault. Therefore I ask God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.



Cre - ate in me a



pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

P: Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. The Almighty Father has given His Son to live, die and rise for us. For his sake, He forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks and praise to our compassionate God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 15:1-6

After these events the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision. He said, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

² Abram said, “LORD God what can you give me, since I remain childless, and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ Abram also said, “Look, you have given me no offspring, so a servant born in my house will be my heir.” ⁴ Just then, the word of the LORD came to him. God said, “This man will not be your heir, but instead one who will come out of your own body will be your heir.” ⁵ The LORD then brought him outside and said, “Now look toward the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” He said to Abram, “This is what your descendants will be like.” ⁶ Abram believed in the LORD, and the LORD credited it to him as righteousness.

PSALM: Psalm 116

P: I love the LORD, because he hears my voice.

C: He hears my cry for mercy.

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL LESSON: John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” ²² After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” ²⁴ But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.” ²⁶ After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰ Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON TEXT: 1 JOHN 5:4-10

THE FAITH THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD



HYMN:

Faith is a Living Power from Heaven

CW 404

**♪ Faith is a living pow'r from heav'n
that grasps the promise God has giv'n.
A trust that cannot be o'er thrown,
fixed heartily on Christ alone.**

**Faith finds in Christ what-e'er we need
to save or strengthen us indeed,
Receiving grace from heaven's throne
and humbly sharing cross and crown.**

**Faith in the Savior brings us peace
and bids the mourner's weeping cease;
By faith the children's place we claim
and give all honor to one name.**

**We thank you, the, O God of heavn'n,
that you to us this faith have giv'n
Through mighty Word and sacrament
to trust the one whom you have sent.**



CONFESSON OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

HYMN

Jesus Lives the Victory's Won

CW 145

**Jesus lives! The victory's won! Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will
recall me.**

Brighter scenes will then commence; this shall be my confidence.

**Jesus lives! For me He died, hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide, praise to Him and glory giving.
Freely God doth aid dispense; this shall be my confidence.**

SPECIAL PRAYERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

