

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, April 17, 2022

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 146 (p. 839 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD, O my soul.

I will praise the LORD all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save.

**When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—
the LORD, who remains faithful forever.**

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind,

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous.

**The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

Hymn of Preparation*

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Choir: Christ is risen, *Alleluia!* Sing God's praises, *Alleluia!*
Christ is risen, lift up your voice and sing: Christ is risen today!

Church: "Christ the Lord is ris'n today," *Alleluia!* All creation join to say, *Alleluia!*
Raise your joys and triumphs high, *Alleluia!* Sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. *Alleluia!*

Love's redeeming work is done, *Alleluia!* Fought the fight, the battle won, *Alleluia!*
Death in vain forbids him rise, *Alleluia!* Christ has opened paradise. *Alleluia!*

Lives again our glorious King; *Alleluia!* Where, O death, is now thy sting? *Alleluia!*
Once he died, our souls to save, *Alleluia!* Where thy victory, O grave? *Alleluia!*

(Musical Interlude)

Church: Soar we now where Christ has led, *Alleluia!* Foll'wing our exalted Head; *Alleluia!*
Made like him, like him we rise: *Alleluia!* Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, *Alleluia!*

Choir: *Alleluia!*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God and Father, we acknowledge that you are holy and perfect. We feel unworthy to enter into your presence because we again have failed to keep all your commandments.

All: We have broken your holy laws by our careless deeds, our hurtful words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and unbelief, and all our failures and shortcomings toward you and others.

Leader: We repent and are sincerely sorry for our sins. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father, for the sake of your Son, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification.

All: We ask this through the merit and mediation of our risen and ascended Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 8:31-34

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 16

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 259

Hark! the Voice of Love and Mercy

Hark! the voice of love and mercy sounds aloud from Calvary;
See, it rends the rocks asunder, shakes the earth, and veils the sky:

“It is finished! It is finished! It is finished!”

Hear the dying Savior cry; hear the dying Savior cry.

“It is finished!” O what pleasure do these precious words afford;
Heav’nly blessings, without measure, flow to us from Christ the Lord:

“It is finished! It is finished! It is finished!”

Saints the dying words record; saints the dying words record.

Finished all the types and shadows of the ceremonial law;
Finished all that God had promised; death and hell no more shall awe:

“It is finished! It is finished! It is finished!”

Saints, from hence your comfort draw; saints, from hence your comfort draw.

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs, join to sing the glorious theme;
All in earth, and all in heaven, join to praise Emmanuel’s name:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the bleeding Lamb!

Glory to the bleeding Lamb! Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 45. *What is the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment is: “You shall have no other gods before me.”

Q. 46. *What is required in the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment requires us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.

Q. 47. *What is forbidden in the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment forbids the denying, or not worshiping and glorifying, the true God as God, and our God; and the giving to any other of that worship and glory due to him alone.

Q. 48. *What are we especially taught by the words, “before me,” in the first commandment?*

A. These words, “before me,” in the first commandment teach us that God, who sees all things, takes notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other god.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Doxology*

Hymn 732

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.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 139:14-24])

Hymn 37

All That I Am I Owe to Thee

All that I am I owe to thee;
Thy wisdom, Lord, has fashioned me.
I give my Maker thankful praise,
Whose wondrous works my soul amaze.

Ere into being I was brought,
Thine eye did see, and in thy thought
My life in all its perfect plan
Was ordered ere my days began.

Thy thoughts, O God, how manifold,
More precious unto me than gold!
I muse on their infinity,
Awaking I am still with thee.

The wicked thou wilt surely slay;
From me let sinners turn away.
They speak against the name divine;
I count God's enemies as mine.

Search me, O God, my heart discern;
Try me, my inmost thought to learn;
And lead me, if in sin I stray,
To choose the everlasting way. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Resurrection of Jesus”
Matthew 27:62 - 28:15

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 286

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell.
Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares:
“Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares.”
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with pow’r;
All hell’s minions may assemble, but cannot withstand his hour.
He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!

Doubt may lift its head to murmur, scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
But the truth proclaims a wonder thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!

We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory;
Sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free.
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King! Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to TRINITY)

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be, hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity love and adore. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

“The Resurrection of Jesus” Matthew 27:62 - 28:15

1. An Unstoppable Resurrection

Because Jesus is God (John 10:17-18)

Because his resurrection was prophesied (Acts 2:24-31)

Because his resurrection was part of God's eternal plan (John 17:5, 24)

2. A Powerful Resurrection

Romans 1:4

3. A Resurrection for His People

Romans 4:25

1 Corinthians 15:23

Blank lined page with 25 horizontal lines for writing.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, April 18

Scripture: Joshua 16:1 - 18:28; Luke 19:1-27; Psalm 87:1-7; Proverbs 13:11

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 4

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, April 19

Scripture: Joshua 19:1 - 20:9; Luke 19:28-48; Psalm 88:1-18; Proverbs 13:12-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 61

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, April 20

Scripture: Joshua 21:1 - 22:20; Luke 20:1-26; Psalm 89:1-13; Proverbs 13:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 62

Pray for: Our covenant children, and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Gabon and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, April 21

Scripture: Joshua 22:21 - 23:16; Luke 20:27-47; Psalm 89:14-37; Proverbs 13:17-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 63

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, April 22

Scripture: Joshua 24:1-33; Luke 21:1-28; Psalm 89:38-52; Proverbs 13:20-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 64

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.
Our pregnant moms.

Saturday, April 23

Scripture: Judges 1:1 - 2:9; Luke 21:29 - 22:13; Psalm 90:1 - 91:16; Proverbs 13:24-25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 65

Pray for: The preaching, and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, April 24

Scripture: Judges 2:10 - 3:31; Luke 22:14-34; Psalm 92:1 - 93:5; Proverbs 14:1-2

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 66

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebyuganda@gmail.com

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Jesus' resurrection was the first stage of his exaltation. After undergoing humiliation throughout his life as he obeyed the law and suffered the curse of sin for us, he was raised in glory. He was not just resuscitated by the power of God, but he was raised in a glorified body. This is why the Apostle Paul describes Jesus' resurrection as the "firstfruits" (1 Corinthians 15:20-22). The idea of firstfruits is from the Old Testament, wherein God commanded Israel to bring the first and best portions of their harvest as offerings in worship. The firstfruits represented the whole harvest, because everything belongs to God. In the same way, Christ was the first to be raised in glory, and his resurrection represents the whole resurrection harvest—it points to the day when his whole Church will be raised in glory. J.I. Packer, in his book titled *Concise Theology*, explains the theological significance of Jesus' resurrection when he writes:

Christianity rests on the certainty of Jesus' resurrection as a space-time occurrence in history. All four Gospels highlight it, focusing on the empty tomb and resurrection appearances, and Acts insists on it. Paul regarded the resurrection as indisputable proof that the message about Jesus as Judge and Savior is true. Jesus' resurrection demonstrated his victory over death, vindicated him as righteous, and indicated his divine identity. It led on to his ascension and enthronement and his present heavenly reign. It guarantees the believer's present forgiveness and justification and is the basis of resurrection life in Christ for the believer here and now.

1. Read Acts 2:22-36. How does Peter compare David and Jesus? Why does Peter say that it was not possible for Jesus "to be held by" death? (verse 24) What does this reveal about God's power, and how can you draw comfort from this truth?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. How does Paul describe the future physical resurrection of believers? What conclusion does he draw in verse 58 about how this truth should affect our attitudes and actions in this life?
3. Why is it significant that Jesus referred to his disciples as his "brothers" in Matthew 28:10? What does this reveal about his grace toward his people?
4. Read Westminster Confession of Faith chapter 32. How does knowing that all Christians will "be raised, by [Christ's] Spirit, to honor, and brought into conformity with Christ's own glorious body" encourage you? How might you encourage fellow Christians with this doctrine?