

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Is it any wonder people find it hard to believe in the resurrection of Jesus if we don't throw our hats in the air? .... This is our greatest day. We should put the flags out. The reason Easter should be our greatest day is that the resurrection of Jesus changes every other day, from now and into eternity. (N.T. Wright)

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: Psalm 118. 14, 17, 19, 22-24

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my song;  
People: He has become my salvation.  
Leader: I shall not die, but I shall live,  
And recount the deeds of the LORD.  
People: Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
That I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.  
Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.  
People: This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.  
Leader: This is the day that the LORD has made;  
People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Greeting: based on Luke 24.34

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gloria Patri: Trinity Hymnal #734

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today  
Trinity Hymnal #277

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: 1 Corinthians 15.12-19

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Confession of Sin

Father, we confess that we often think and feel and live as if Christ did not resurrect from the dead. We're so sorry for that! Too often his resurrection fails to shape and influence our approach to life. We obsess about what we can eat and drink and do. We remain captive to our doubts and fears. We walk burdened by our griefs and failures and sins. We don't experience that solid joy and real hope that we desire. So, we ask for your forgiveness today! We thank you that not only did you send your beloved Son to the cross to die in our place, but you also raised him from the dead to secure our new life. And not only did you accomplish our redemption, but you also apply it to us by your Spirit. So, please renew in us the joy and hope of the resurrection. Please grant us new hearts to believe more deeply and rejoice more fully. For we ask it in the Great Name of your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Comfort of the Gospel: 1 Corinthians 15.3-6

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, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

Charge for Gospel Living: 1 Corinthians 15.58

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving: Worship Christ, the Risen King  
Trinity Hymnal #286

Prayer of Intercession: 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 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings: LPC Bell Choir

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 24.1-53

Hymn of Reflection: Up from the Grave He Arose  
Trinity Hymnal#276

Sermon: Our Happy Day!

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Creed: 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  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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 catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Response: Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.  
Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

Chorus  
O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.  
Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ? Chorus

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore. Chorus x2

Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.