



EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 12, 2020



I Know that My Redeemer Lives

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As We Gather

The spring of souls. The queen of seasons. The royal feast of feasts. With those colorful phrases the ancient writer John of Damascus, who lived in the eighth century, described Easter Day in a classic hymn text. The Feast of the Resurrection and its importance is difficult to put into words. Everything has been done: Christ has come and has established His kingdom in the world for the sake of the resurrection and the life to come. His saving work is accomplished—and we are the beneficiaries! The action word “go” is central for us this day, as we go in to meet our Lord in worship and go out to share the message of the empty tomb and of the risen Christ, our Lord!

Prelude

Preservice Hymn - 469

Christ the Lord
Is Risen Today

- 1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”
Saints on earth and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply.
- 2 Love’s redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won;
Lo! Our Sun’s eclipse is o’er;
Lo! He sets in blood no more.

- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise;
Christ has opened paradise.
- 4 Lives again our glorious King!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O grave?
- 5 Soar we now where Christ has led;
Foll'wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

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Ringing of the Tower Bell

Hymn - 457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- △ 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psa 118:24; Matt 28:7; Heb 2:7; Psalm 8:6, adapted

- P** This is the day that the Lord has made;
C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- P** Christ has risen from the dead. Alleluia!
C **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,**
- P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
C **He has put all things under His feet. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.
- O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought and in word and in deed.
- C** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.**
- P** We confess that we have not lived as Your followers but have sought to go our own ways in directions that have not brought glory to You or blessing to others.
- C** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.**
- P** We confess that Your love has not reached others through us in every situation, that there have been times in which we have been loveless, thoughtless, and judgmental toward others, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.
- C** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, Lord.**
- P** We confess that Your will has not been our priority at all times and that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless in our circle of family, neighbors, and friends and beyond.
- C** **Have mercy on us and forgive us, Lord.**

P We confess that we have not used every opportunity given to us to witness to the resurrection faith that is ours and have at times been slow to speak of the hope that is ours in Christ.

C **Have mercy on us and forgive us, Lord.**

P Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE - 488

He Is Arisen!
Glorious Word

1 He is arisen! Glorious Word!
Now reconciled is God, my Lord;
The gates of heav'n are open.
My Jesus did triumphant die,
And Satan's arrows broken lie,
Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.
O hear what cheer!
Christ victorious,
Rising glorious,
Life is giving.
He was dead but now is living!

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Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P *Let us pray.*

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament

Jeremiah 31:1–6

¹“At that time, declares the LORD, I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they shall be my people.”

²Thus says the LORD:

“The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³the LORD appeared to him from far away.

I have loved you with an everlasting love;

therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built,

O virgin Israel!

Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines

and shall go forth in the dance of the merry-makers.

⁵Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit.

⁶For there shall be a day when watchmen will call in the hill country of Ephraim:

‘Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Colossians 3:1–4

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

2 Timothy 1:10b

P Alleluia. [Christ Jesus] abolished death

C and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1–10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.

⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”

⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then

Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

THEME HYMN - 461:1-4 I Know That
My Redeemer Lives

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

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Theme Reading

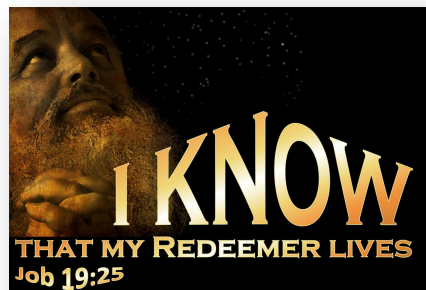
Job 19:23–26

²³“Oh that my words were written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!
²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.
²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God.

Sermon

Job 19:23-26

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"



- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.**
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.**
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.**
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

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The Second Article

Redemption

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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him
in His kingdom and serve Him in
everlasting righteousness, innocence, and
blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and
reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Offering

If you wish to give an offering during this time of
suspended public worship, there are three ways
to give:

- Mail your offering to the church
- Drop off your offering outside the church
office, Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon
- Give online at SJL.ORG

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God
in Christ Jesus and for all people
according to their needs:

That the Church would live out its
calling and that the resurrection of our
Lord Jesus Christ be joyfully celebrated
in all places, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the nations of the world find peace
with justice in our time, let us pray to the
Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the abiding blessing of God rest
upon our families, our neighborhoods,
our places of business, and our schools,
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That those whose confession of the true
faith leads to bodily peril or other
sufferings know relief and deliverance
from every danger, let us pray of the
Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That all whose labor adds meaning and beauty to the life of the Church—the musicians, artists, craft workers, flower arrangers, and others—find joy and blessing in all that they do to the glory of God, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That all those whose lives know specific challenges, including those who are ill and those who mourn, [*including . . .*], know heavenly benediction and strength for each day, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the memory of the faithful departed be held in reverence and honor by all of us as we await a time of resurrection and reunion at the close of the age, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P These things and all else that we should have asked on this day of holy rejoicing, grant to us, Lord, for the sake of our risen Savior Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you
always.

C **Amen.**

Thanksgiving

- P** Let us pray.
O Lord God, heavenly Father, Ruler of all things, in the celebration of Easter You have enlivened our hope, increased our joy, and strengthened our faith. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now heard the glorious good news of Christ's resurrection, we would die daily through Baptism and rise new and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage, until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your glory for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

HYMN - 477

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Hearts to Heaven

- 1 Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.
- 2 Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:

See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.

△3 Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!

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✠ Soli Deo Gloria ✠
To God Alone Be Glory



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