



Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude

O Sons and Daughters

Walter Pelz b. 1926

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Robert Hobby b. 1962

*Easter Proclamation

Pastor: Christ is risen!

Congregation: Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor: Christ is our strength and our power!

Congregation: Christ has become our salvation!

Pastor: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Christ is risen!

Congregation: Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*Procession

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

UMH 302
Easter Hymn

Hosanna Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, 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’s thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

*Prayer of Lighting the Paschal Candle (*unison*)

God of life, through Jesus Christ you have bestowed upon the world the light of life. Sanctify this new fire, and grant that our hearts and minds may also be kindled with holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, that we may attain to the feast of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Lighting of the Paschal Candle (*Pastor lights the Paschal Candle*)

One: The light of Christ rises in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death.

Many: Christ is our light!

*Praise Songs

Osee Praise

Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Praise the almighty God!
He is worthy of our praise! Oh...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh Praise God...
He is worthy of our praise! Halleluyah!

Osee Yee Praise Him Halleluyah!...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh...
He is worthy of our praise! Oh Praise God...

Praise, O' praise, my God and King

Praise, O praise, my God and King.
Hymns of adoration, sing;
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful, ever sure ...

Alleluia, Alleluia!
King of Kings and Lord of Lords!
For his mercies, shall endure; Ever faithful ever sure...

1. In Joseph's lovely garden
The Lord Christ's tomb was made.
And there His broken body
To rest was gently laid.
A great rock strongly sealed it,
That Death might have full sway;
But God sent down His angel,
To roll the stone away.
2. When dawn was faintly breaking
Across the garden fair,
Three women entered weeping,
Bearing spices rare.
Then spake the guardian angel,
In shining raiment bright,
He whom ye seek is risen,
And Death is vanquished quite!
3. O angel of the garden,
Descend to us today,
And comfort all our sadness,
And drive death's fear away.
We all are sorrow laden
Speak to our hearts we pray,
"He who ye love is risen,
And lies with Christ always!
4. O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
All praise to Thee we bring;
No power of death could hold Thee,
Our Saviour, Lord, and King!
As Thou hast ris'n all glorious,
May we one day arise,

Children's Conversation

Anthem

"Meye Dede" (I Will Make Noise)

James Armaah b. 1984

I give you thanks, I give you praise
 Lord, how can I thank you for all that you have done
 I will mention your name to all nations that you are my God
 Your compassion is so great towards your children.
 When I look at what God has done for me, I Stand on the Holy Mount of Calvary,
 I will sing everyday and I will shout everyday for you Jesus.
 Compassionate God, I will always sing for you
 Lord it is by your Grace that I am still alive, I stand on the Holy Mount of Calvary and when I look
 at all that the Lord has done for me, I will sing everyday and I will shout everyday for you.
 With joy, I will sing, I will extol, I will shout Halleluia , Halleluia, Amen.
 Amen, Halleluia, Halleluia, Amen.
 With joy, I will sing, I will extol, I will shout Halleluia, Halleluia, Amen
 Amen, Halleluia, Halleluia, Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Offering

Offertory Anthem “Christ, Victorious, Christ Now Reigning” Stephen Caracciolo b 1962

Christ, victorious; Christ, now reigning; Christ, your Lord and King, commands!
Shouts of triumph, praise unceasing, “Holy, holy to the Lamb”.
Alleluia, Christ by heaven and earth adored.
Alleluia, Righteous King and mighty Lord.
Christ, the Image; Christ, the Dawning; Christ the first of God’s commands.
All things through him, all things for him, stars and all of heaven’s expanse.
Alleluia, Light and Source and Holy One.
Alleluia, Christ, who was and is to come.
Christ, the Victim; Christ, the Healing; Love anoints his hands and feet.
Christ, the dying, Christ, the rising, God’s own sacrifice complete.
Alleluia, Hail the Chosen One of God!
Alleluia, Great Redeemer, saving Lord.
Come Almighty, claim your kingdom, call a nation for your own.
Come with beauty, power and blessing, gather all your people home.
Alleluia, Christ the Banquet, Christ the Song.
Alleluia, Christ the glory, Christ alone.

*Doxology

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Anthem

“The Glory of Christ”

Lee Scott b. 1950

You, living Christ, our eyes behold, amid your Church appearing,
All girt about your breast with gold and bright apparel wearing;
Your countenance is burning light, a sun resplendent in its might:
Lord Christ, we see your glory.
Your glorious feet have sought and found your own of every nation;
With everlasting voice you sound the call of our salvation;
You search us still with eyes of flame, you know and call us all by name:
Lord Christ, we see your glory.
O risen Christ, today alive, amid your Church abiding,
Who now your blood and body give, new life and strength providing,
We join in heavenly company to sing your praise triumphantly:
Lord Christ, we see your glory, Lord Christ we have seen your glory!

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

*Gospel Reading

John 20:1-18



1. Re - joi - ce this Eas - ter day! Christ con - quered
 2. God's pow - er can - not fail, Christ rules o'er
 3. Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the



sin and death! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and praise
 earth and heav'n; The keys of death and hell
 Judge, shall come To glo - ri - fy the saints



God with your ev - 'ry breath. Lift up your heart, lift
 Are to our Sav - ior giv'n; Lift up your heart, lift
 For their e - ter - nal home: Lift up your heart, Lift



up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!
 up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!
 up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Message

*Hymn

"He Lives"

UMH 310

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
 I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
 I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 and just the time I need him, he's always near.

[Refrain] He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
 He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
 He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
 You ask me how I know he live? He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see his loving care,
 and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
 I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
 the day of his appearing will come at last. **[Refrain]**

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
 eternal halleluiahs to Jesus Christ the King!
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
 none other is so loving, so good and kind. **[Refrain]**

*Shalom

Mensah Essilfie

God's peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

*Benediction

*Response

See Insert

"Hallelujah" from *Messiah*

Georg Handel 1685-1759

(Congregation is invited to remain in your pews and sing as the Spirit moves you.)

Postlude

Toccata from *Symphonie 5*

Charles-Marie Widor 1844-1937

***Please be considerate of those who wish to receive the postlude
as part of their worship experience.***

Worcester Brass Consort

Douglas Weeks, Director

Erich Ledebuhr, Trumpet; Doug Olsen, Trumpet
Neil Godwin, French horn; Douglas Weeks, Trombone
Pall Kalmansson, Trombone; Evan Lattimore, Timpani

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Asante, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle,
Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, Sandra McManus, William Ness, Debbie O'Driscoll,
David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Brass hymn setting arrangements by Robert Lehman and Jeremy Bankson.
Additional instrumentation to *Toccata* of Widor by Richard Proulx.

Prayer of Lighting the Paschal Candle – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 371.
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