

# Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

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Latin, c. 5th century  
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.

Luke 24:36-37

1 Joy dawned a - gain - on Eas - ter Day, the sun shone  
2 O Je - sus, Sav - ior, Gen - tle One, come take our  
3 O Sov - ereign One, with us a - bide in this our  
out with bright ar - ray; For when the A - pos - tles  
hearts to be your own, That we may give you  
joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; From ev - ery weap - on  
hid in fear, the Ris - en Christ to them ap - peared.  
all our days the will - ing trib - ute of our praise.  
death can wield, your own re - deemed for - ev - er shield.

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April 16, 2023  
Second Sunday of Easter

## GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP, PRAYER OF INVOCATION <sup>1</sup> & LORD'S PRAYER (sins)

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, on this second Sunday of Easter,  
the light of your love shines on!

Congregation: **Your light has come into the world,  
and neither darkness, nor evil, nor even death itself  
could overcome it.**

Pastor: And we (like Mary, like the disciples, like “doubting” Thomas)  
who have been there with you

Congregation: **through Holy Week and the first Easter morning  
have been made witnesses to the resurrection story:  
wondering,  
bewildered,  
hoping,  
rejoicing....  
and sometimes doubting.**

Pastor: It is not always easy to believe with our minds,

Congregation: **and trust with our hearts.**

All: *Stand among us once again, Risen Savior, and bless us with your  
greeting: “Peace be with you.” Stand among us again, Exalted Brother,  
and breathe upon us your promised Spirit. Stand among us again, you  
who have escaped death, and give us new birth into your living hope.  
Together we pray as you taught your disciples to pray: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us  
not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## HYMN

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

Hymnal #271

<sup>1</sup> Guadino, Rebecca. “Opening Prayer: Worship Elements: April 16, 2023.” Ministry Matters.  
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/4911/worship-elements-april-16-2023>. Accessed April 2, 2023.

## CALL TO CONFESSION <sup>2</sup>

Pastor: O Jesus, we have promised to follow and serve you to the end, yet how quickly we forget that we are an Easter people. The power of death leaves us shaken and afraid, but God in Christ calls us out of our fear to experience a presence that embraces us with eternal hope. We confess now all that keeps us from accepting the gift of the Holy Spirit.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*All: God of mercy and grace, you understand us completely. Yet there are times when we do not understand this life of faith. We do not understand how Jesus rose from the dead. We do not understand how the resurrected Christ comes to us today. Moments of doubt and disbelief sap our strength. Forgive and restore us. Help us trust you and your love for us. And help us trust the ways of Christ. Amen.*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Jesus said to the disciples, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” Beloved children of God, you are forgiven. May this forgiveness bring peace to your souls, your minds, and your body. Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Halle, Halle, Halle*

Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal-le-lu-ja.  
Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-lu-ja.

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: Jesus stands among us and says, “Peace be with you.” So, we say to one another: “Peace be with you.” Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

## A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

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## HYMN

*Joy Dawned on Again on Easter Day*

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**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Judges 4:1-24**

**EPISTLE READING – 1 Peter 1:3-9**

**GOSPEL READING – John 20:19-31**

**SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Laura C. Baker

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Mr. Cody Eckenrode

**OFFERING INVITATION <sup>3</sup>**

Liturgist: May we give out of the love that we have for Jesus Christ, so that others may share in our imperishable and unfading inheritance of hope and life. Let us dedicate our love offerings with a prayer.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION <sup>4</sup>**

*All: We REJOICE in the inheritance you have given us, O God, and delight in sharing it with others. You have given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You have touched our lives with eternity, with indescribable and glorious joy. We want others to experience what we have begun to realize in company with one another and with you. To that end, bless all the offerings of this day. Amen.*

**HYMN**

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*

Hymnal #174

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Members of the Body of Christ, may the unconditional love of God, the deep peace of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

*All: Amen.*

**POSTLUDE**

<sup>2</sup> Ellis, Karin. “Call to Confession. Confession: April 16, 2023.”

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11293/april-16-2023-second-sunday-of-easter>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. “Call to Offering.”

<sup>4</sup> Baylor, Lavon. “Offertory Prayer: Second Sunday of Easter.” *Taught by Love*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, pg. 89