Resurrection Sunday April 9, 2023 Service of Word and Sacrament

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!
Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!
All:	Alleluia! Alleluia! ALLELUIA!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN	Up from the Grave/ Low in the Grave He Lay	Bulletin, Page 5
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LITANY OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor:	Risen Christ, the world despised and rejected you
Congregation:	You responded with grace, humility, and welcome.
Pastor:	The proud questioned your power, devised your death
Congregation:	You responded with peace, forgiveness, and new life.
All:	Forgive us, Merciful One of our arrogance, our selfishness, our scheming, our violence.
	Forgive us, Merciful One, for we are more like "them" than we want to admit. We confess of our sin. Make us more like you.
Pastor:	Risen Christ, we claim your grace, your mercy, your forgiveness.
Congregation:	We claim your resurrection power!
All:	In dying, you destroy our death. In rising, you restore us to new life. You come with saving power! We say, "yes" to new life, rising from sin and death.
Pastor:	Alleluia. Christ is risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

HYMN OF PRAISE	Christ the Lord is Risen Today	Hymnal, #167
A SPECIAL TIME	WITH OUR CHILDREN	
SPECIAL MUSIC	Christ Is Risen, He is Risen Indeed	Chime Choir
OLD TESTAMENT	RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	
Liturgist:	Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;	
	God's love endures forever.	
Congregation:	God's people say: GOD'S LOVE ENDURES FOREVER!	
	The LORD is my strength and my defense.	
	The Lord is my salvation.	
Liturgist:	Shouts of joy and victory resound where the righteous dwell:	
	"The LORD has done mighty things!	
Congregation:	The LORD is lifted high;	
0 0	the LORD has done mighty things!"	
	Therefore, I will not die - but live,	
	and will proclaim what the LORD has done.	

Liturgist:	The LORD corrects severely,
	but God has not given us over to death.
Congregation:	Open for me the gates of the righteous;
	I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.
Liturgist:	This is the gate of the LORD
	through which the righteous may enter.
Congregation:	I will give you thanks, O Lord, for you answered me;
	you have become my salvation.
Liturgist:	The stone the builders rejected
	has become the cornerstone.
	The LORD has done this,
	and it is marvelous in our eyes.
All:	The LORD has done it this very day;
	let us rejoice today and be glad in it!
Liturgist:	The Word of the Lord!

EPISTLE READING – Colossians 3:1-4	Mrs.	Vicki Donbaugh

NEW TESTAMENT READING – Matthew 28:1-10

SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER

EASTER AFFIRAMTION OF FAITH (Adapted from the Confession of Belhar)

All:	We believe that God's
	life-giving Word and Spirit
	has conquered the powers
	of sin and death,
	and therefore also
	of irreconciliation and hatred,
	bitterness and hostility,
	that God's life-giving Word and Spirit
	will enable the church to live
	in a new obedience
	which can open new possibilities of life
	for society and the world.
Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed.
Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is risen.
All:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed.
	Therefore, we too, as the church, the Body of Christ,
	shall rise and live in ways that conquer sin and death,
	and open doors to life and salvation for all.
	Alleluia! Amen!

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist:

We sing our praises to the Lord of Life, for God is good and worthy! In this moment of worship, we pause to reflect on how we're doing as stewards of the Good News of proclaiming the mighty deeds of God? We pause in this moment to recommit our lives to God's mission of sharing Christ's good news in the world. We give our whole selves, and a portion of our time, talent, and financial resources with the expectation that the church will use them to further the good news of Christ's all-inclusive love in our world. Let us

Rising

Mrs. Vicki Donbaugh Rev. Laura C. Baker now, each take a moment to recommit ourselves to giving as your we are truly able. We will then present all we promise with a prayer. (Moment of silence for reflection) Let us now offer all we've promised to God, with a prayer of dedication, followed by the Lord's Prayer, using the words "sin and those who sin against us" in place of debts and debtors.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "sin and those who sin against us")

O God, we come with our offerings in response to your love. With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to you and to our brothers and sisters. Receive the work we do and the gifts we offer. May our giving prove to be a blessing to you and to the world that Christ came to save. We ask this through Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying: 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

ANTHEM

All:

Easter is Here (Williams/Paige)

Chancel Choir

Today's Communion liturgy was written in a way meant to be especially accessible to our children.

	SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!
Pastor:	This is a table set for a special meal. The bread, the juice and wine, prepared and
	presented. Ready to be served and shared.
Congregation:	We remember Jesus sharing a meal like this with his disciples, his friends. He
	included everyone, those he could trust and those he could not trust.
Pastor:	Today, we are Jesus' disciples, his friends. Each one of us in welcome. How amazing it
	is to be loved and wanted even when we have not been perfect.
Congregation:	How wonderful it is to be included as we are.
Pastor:	When Jesus shared the bread with his friends, he explained that he is the Bread of Life. Like bread, Jesus nourishes and strengthens us so that we can know right and wrong and not be confused.
Congregation:	When we eat bread together, we are strengthened as a community to remember Jesus and do thing Jesus would do in our world.
Pastor:	Jesus also used a cup of juice, squeezed from the fruit of grapes to teach his disciples. He compared the red juice to blood, to help us remember the suffering in the world.
Congregation:	Drinking of the cup together helps us remember that we are all a part of a special agreement, a covenant, with God.
Pastor:	God loves us so much that when we make mistakes, or when we make bad choices, called
Congregation:	sin, God promises to forgive us and give us a second chance, every time. Every time we sin, God promises to forgive us. We have another chance to do better; to do what Jesus would want us to do.
Pastor:	This is ordinary bread and ordinary juice and wine. But when we eat the bread together and drink of the cup together, something extraordinary happens which brings us closer to Jesus and closer to one another. We become the "Body of Christ."
Congregation:	Being the "Body of Christ" means that our eyes and ears are better able to see and hear what Jesus would see in our world. And our arms and hands do Jesus' work to help others.

Pastor: Congregation:	Let us remember the story of our Lord's Last Supper, once more: On the night Jesus was betrayed by friend and foe, he sat at a table, broke and ate bread with his friends, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is broken for you. Remember me, each time you do this."
Pastor: Congregation:	After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup, and said: "Take this, all of you and drink. This cup is my blood, shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Remember me, each time you do this."
Pastor:	Let us bow our heads in prayer, trusting God will bless this special, this holy, meal, remembering Jesus' life and death, and how we are called to be the "Body of Christ." And so, we pray: Loving God, we praise you with great joy on this Easter day, when Christ rose from the dead, fulfilling the promises made through the law and prophets. By dying he destroyed our death; by rising, we receive life eternal. We are grateful and want to live as your humble, thankful servants. Therefore, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the bread and cup. May they become for us the body and blood of Christ that nourishes and builds us up in love, so we may mature in our faith, and grow more and more into Jesus' likeness, as the Body of Christ in our world. Amen.
Pastor:	The gifts of God, for the people of God. All things are now ready. Please come forward to receive the Bread of Life.
Congregation:	May it strengthen us to do what is right.
Pastor:	Please come forward to receive the Cup of Forgiveness.
Congregation:	We remember God's agreement, the covenant, to forgive and give each of us another chance to what is right and good – to be more like Jesus in the world.

An usher will release you from your seat when it is time for you to come forward. Please come down the center aisle to receive communion and return to your set by way of the side aisle. If anyone is uncomfortable or unable to come forward, Pastor Laura and an usher will come to you.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Both grape juice and wine are served. Grape juice is clear and will be served from the lectern side. Wine is red and will be served from the pulpit side. Please receive as you feel called. Communion is served by intinction. Please take the bread, BEFORE eating, dip it into the chalice of grape juice or wine, then eat.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Victory in Jesus! (Bulletin, Pages 7 & 8) Lift High the Cross (Bulletin, Page 9)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of love, we thank you for this Easter celebration! Thank you for strengthening us with the Bread of Life. Thank you for forgiving us and granting us another chance to do what is right. We promise to be the living Body of Christ, nourished by this special meal. We promise to use our arms, hands, feet, eyes, ears, and heart to follow Jesus and make the world a safer and more just place for everyone. Amen.

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Pastor:	Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!
Pastor:	In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go into the world,
	to fulfil our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ.
	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!
All:	ALLELUIA! AMEN!

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Strife is O'er

Hymnal, #173

POSTLUDE

All:







Lift High the Cross

John 1:29-34; Rom. 5:6-11; 6:3-8; Rev. 7:9-17; 22:1-5

George William Kitchin (1827–1912) Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.



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