Surely the Presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings,

I see glory on each face; surely the

presence of the Lord is in this place.

Easter Sunrise Service
Hoover Cemetery Starview
A SILENT GATHERING

OPENING PRAYER
Pastor: Living God, this morning begins in darkness, the day dawns in quiet. Come, God, arise! Bring forth the sun from its slumber, and Jesus from the grave. Break forth the Holy Light of the World! Greet us on this morning of mystery and triumph. In resurrection hope, we pray. Amen.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD BREAKS FORTH
The Christ candle is lit symbolizing Jesus, the Light of the World, who on that first resurrection morning, conquered sin and death by rising to new life, in a perfect victory over the grave. After the Christ Candle is lit, each per gathered will light their candle, sharing the Good News with those directly around them: “Alleluia! Christ is Risen!” to which will come the response: “Alleluia! He is Risen indeed!”

HYMN Surely the Presence of the Lord Back of Bulletin

GOOD NEWS LITANY
Pastor: Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place in the same way that it was, in the cemetery garden, on that first Resurrection morning. This is the good news: Christ’s continues to come to us; his presence shining in the darkness.

People: The darkness will never overcome the light of Christ’s presence.
Pastor: This is the good news – the grave is empty! Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia!
Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN We Are Standing on Holy Ground (2 times) Insert

SCRIPTURE READING John 20:1-18

HYMN We Are Standing on Holy Ground (1 time) Insert

A HOMILY & PRAYER Rev. Laura C. Bair

HYMN He Lives! Insert

BENEDICTION
Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Pastor: By the power of God, Christ was raised from death to life.
People: Through his victory over the grave, we too are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death.
Pastor: Go forth in joy to love and serve the Risen Lord in all you say and do.
People: We go in the name of the Risen Christ.
Pastor: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
All: AMEN!

CHORAL BENEDICTION
(All people are asked to sing as they depart the cemetery)

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 lives? He lives within my heart.
(Repeat…).
He Lives

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
2. In all the world around me I see his loving care,
3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that he is living, what ev'ry foe may say,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast.
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;

and just the time I need him, he's always near.
the day of his appearing will come at last.
one other is so loving, so good and kind.

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 lives? He lives with in my heart.
Holy Ground

The place where you are standing is holy ground. Exodus 3:5

Unison

We are standing on holy ground,

And I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now;

We are standing in His presence on holy ground.
Holy Ground

The place where you are standing is holy ground, Exodus 3:5

Unison

We are standing on holy ground,

And I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now;

We are standing in His presence on holy ground.