

**Easter Sunday**  
April 12, 2020, 10am

**GATHERING ALL PEOPLE IN A CARING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

PRELUDE "I Danced in the Morning" arr. Emma Lou Diemer  
Linda Dover, organist

*They cut me down and I leapt up high. I am the life that will never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EASTER STORY by Jaylee Soule, Max Soule, Morgan Krug

HYMN 232 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" EASTER HYMN

OPENING PRAYER (*unison*)

**We celebrate the good news of God's love with joy for we are God's Easter people!  
Darkness cannot claim us! Fear cannot bind us!  
Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Amen!**

ANTHEM "Easter Gloria" Music by Mark Hayes  
Chancel Ensemble Lyrics by Bill F. Leach

*In the stillness of the night, Love was born, born in a lowly cattle stall;  
Son of man and Son of God, he came to redeem us all.  
So we sing Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
On a lonely, barren hill, Love was slain, crucified for all to see;  
Son of man and Son of God, he died for you and me.  
But on a bright and glorious morn, Love arose  
triumphant over death and grave; King of kings and Lord of lords,  
forevermore he reigns. So we sing Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

HYMN 250 "This Easter Celebration" AURELIA

This Easter celebration is not like ones we've known.  
We pray in isolation, we sing the hymns alone.

We're distant from our neighbors — from worship leaders, too.  
No flowers grace the chancel to set a festive mood.

No gathered choirs are singing; no banners lead the way.  
O God of love and promise, where's joy this Easter Day?  
With sanctuaries empty, may homes become the place  
we ponder resurrection and celebrate your grace.

Our joy won't come from worship that's in a crowded room  
but from the news of women who saw the empty tomb.  
Our joy comes from disciples who ran with haste to see —  
who heard that Christ is risen, and then, by grace, believed.

In all the grief and suffering, may we remember well:  
Christ suffered crucifixion and faced the powers of hell.  
Each Easter bears the promise: Christ rose that glorious day!  
Now nothing in creation can keep your love away.

We thank you that on Easter, your church is blessed to be  
a scattered, faithful body that's doing ministry.  
In homes and in the places of help and healing, too,  
we live the Easter message by gladly serving you.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. This day, as we celebrate the joy of Easter, help us remember that we are to become “Easter People,” people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been conquered. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need to serve in this world. We ask this in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you and every one.

**ALL: And also with you and all others!**

#### SINGING

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Praise Team led

by J. Newton, C. Tomlin  
and L. Giglio

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### EQUIPPING PEOPLE TO DEVELOP AND SHARE A FAITH THAT WORKS IN REAL LIFE

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON     Matthew 28:1-10

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“On a Morning Like This”

Revs Mitch and Sue Trigger

ONLINE OFFERING

(You may submit your offering through our online giving portal at [www.gcpc.org/give](http://www.gcpc.org/give))

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

ALLELUIA PRAYER

One: Alleluia is not just a word, it is a way of living...

How many ways can we share ‘alleluia!’?

**ALL:    When the bread is divided, alleluia  
          When the table is set, alleluia  
          When the hungry are fed, alleluia  
          When peace is celebrated, alleluia  
          When communities are brought together in spirit, alleluia  
          When neighbors love each other, alleluia!**

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

...as Jesus taught his disciples 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

BREAKING OF BREAD

COMMUNION PRAYER

COMMUNION SONG

ANTHEM

“Living Hope”

arr. Dan Galbraith

Praise Team

*Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free!*

*Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me.*

*You have broken ev'ry chain, there's salvation in your name.*

*Jesus Christ, my living hope!*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

arr. Paul Manz

Linda Dover, organist