

Service of Worship April 20, 2025 11:00am Easter Day/Resurrection of the Lord

Gathering

THE FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

(You are invited to come forward and place a flower on the cross as a symbol of the transition from Good Friday to Easter. As you place your flower, remember Jesus' death and give thanks for his resurrection.)

PRELUDE "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. by J. Daniel Smith

Bob Dover, clarinet Linda Dover, organist

WELCOME

INTROIT "Alleluia" Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel Choir and Exaltation! Singers Patrick O'Halloran, director

All shall be Amen and Alleluia We shall rest and we shall see. We shall see and we shall know.

We shall know and we shall love. Behold our end which is no end.

—St Augustine

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

One: Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the might song of all God's people!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 826 "Lift High the Cross" arr. Paul Leddington Wright
Refrain All Throughout ... Verse 1 All (Parts) CRUCIFER
Verse 2 High Voices (Unison to End) ... Verse 3 Low Voices ... Verse 4 All

Symbols of faith are returned to the Sanctuary

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (spoken together)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us trust your power to change our lives and make our faces shine with resurrection light, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Christ has been raised from the dead. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O Death, is your sting?

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: We share the peace of Christ saying, Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN 232 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

EASTER HYMN

Equipping

FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:34-40 (NRSVue)

Terri Monrad

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,

ANTHEM

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"
Chancel Choir and Easter Brass

arr. Jeremy J. Bankson

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:1–12 (NRSVue)

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Perplexed" Rev. Karen Wright

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY "Rondo Exultate" Margaret Tucker

Charter Ringers

Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of great gifts: This morning we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks! With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! Amen

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People, and The Lord's Prayer

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 The Words of Institution

Music for Communion (Congregation is invited to sing)

Hymn 250 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" PROMISE

Hymn 251 "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" MFURAHINI HALLELUYA

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup –

This morning we are celebrating communion by intinction. Please come forward via the center aisle, receive a piece of bread, and dip it in the cup. Return to your seat using the outside aisle. Stations are at the front and rear of the Sanctuary. If you need to remain seated, communion can be brought to you.

Prayer After Communion

Sending

*HYMN 246 "Christ Is Alive" TRURO

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church 11100 College Blvd, OPKS 66210 gcpc.org

EASTER MUSICIANS AND MEDIA

Tech & Media Crew

Jason Turner, audio/tech director Joel Kesler, tech & media crew

Charter Ringers

Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors
Elizabeth Bures, Kathy Bures, Linda Bruns, Edwin Fukunaga, Katie Hearn, Donna Heer,
Cheryl Johnson, Mikki Walker, Keith Langabee, Angela Krug, Lynn Long, Lara Schesser, & Jason Walker

Chancel Brass & Percussion

Darryl Prater & Lane Benton, trumpets
Jim Kelly, horn
Mike Hockley & Lara Schesser, euphoniums
Trey Bures, tuba
Keith Langabee, percussion

Chancel Choir & Exaltation! Singers

Linda Dover, accompanist-Patrick O'Halloran, director

Sopranos

Lauren Bond
Barbara Douglas
Karen Kesler
Beth Lillian
Lara Schesser
Kathy Williams
Terri Monrad
Cindy Schendel

Altos

Anne Stroud

Kathy Bures Emily Dixon

Esme Dixon
Pam Kelly
Melanie Townsend
Susan Hayden
Diane Hevener
*Connie Richards
*Music Librarian

Kelly Scarborough

Tenors

Linda Bruns
David Sutherland
Cal Sweeten
Keith Langabee
Ellin Schoenfeld
Gene Wilson
Jim Kelly

Basses

Paul Bruns Conor Schesser Allen York Bob Dover Mac Fechtling Edwin Fukunaga Rob Schendel