

Service for the Lord's Day

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

Westminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia
www.westminsterva.org · 434-293-3133



*W*elcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today! If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133. We hope you will worship with us again.

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude *Drottningholm Music: Vivace - Allegro* Johan Helmich Roman

The Resurrection Matthew 28:1-10 NT pg. 32

Introit *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* Tanzanian melody
Text can be found at Glory to God hymnal no. 251.

◆ Call to Worship

This is the day —

**when tears are wiped away,
shattered hearts are mended,
fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day —

**when the Lord rolls away the stones of fear,
throws off death's clothes,
goes ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad!

Death has no fear for us.

Sin has lost its power over us.

God opens the tombs of our lives and fills us with life!

This is the day: Easter Day!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

◆ Processional Hymn HS 18 **Jesus Christ Is Risen Today** EASTER HYMN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Emptier of tombs, on this morning of hallelujahs, we confess how human we are.
We have failed to do what you have called us to do – to love you,
our neighbors, and ourselves.
We have rushed to church today to hear the good news of the resurrection,
but we are afraid to tell others.
We stand by the empty tomb, but our hearts are not alive – not yet.**

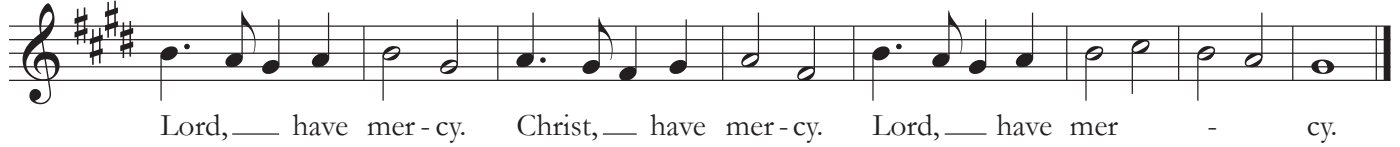
Dazzling God, bring us to life.

**When we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation;
transform our hardened and broken hearts into fountains of grace;
forgive us for all the damage we have done and fill us with the joy of your Spirit.**

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

Ukrainian chant



Assurance of Forgiveness

*God, our Creator, gives us new life. Christ, our Redeemer, prepares a table for us.
The Holy Spirit, our Joy, calls us to service. Beloved, this is the good news:
the tomb is empty, sin is powerless, and death is defeated forever.*

**On this day and every day, we walk as God's people — forgiven and made whole.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

◆ Sung Response

Glory to God hymnal 232

**Hymns of praise now let us sing: Alleluia!
Unto Christ our heavenly king: Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave: Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save: Alleluia!**

◆ Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

God's Word to Us

A Time with Children and Youth

Young children are invited to depart to the education building for a time of unstructured play.

Prayer for Illumination

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Isaiah 25:6-9

OT p. 613

Jana Surdi

Anthem

Sing Allelu, Alleluia!

Sonia Larson

On the first day, on the Sabbath, they went.

Gone was the stone, but an angel was sent to say to the women,

“Now don't be afraid, Sing allelu, alleluia.”

“Come and see the place where he lay.

He was gone at break of day, so don't be afraid
of just what you should say. Sing allelu, alleluia.”

“Jesus is risen, is risen from the dead.

Go tell the others just what I have said,
and lo, I am with you, and so do not dread.

Sing allelu, alleluia.”

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

**This is the good news
which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast:
that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared
first to the women, then to Peter and to the disciples, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the Living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
He is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

◆ Hymn 240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Prayers of the Congregation

The Offering

Offertory

Christ the Lord Is Risen! Alleluia!

Johan Helmich Roman

Alleluia! Christ the Lord is risen. Alleluia!
Blessing, honor, glory, power and might
be unto the Lamb forever. Alleluia, amen!

◆ Presentation of the Bread and Cup

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Glory to God hymnal 607

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Glory to God Hymnal, p. 35

The God of every morning be with you.

And also with you.

People of Easter morning, lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the one who has raised Jesus from the grave.

People of Easter joy, give thanks to the one who raises us to new life.

We raise our hallelujahs to the God of everlasting love.

... therefore we join our voices this morning with those who stood

by the empty tomb as well as with those of every time and place, singing our Easter joy to you:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

HS 78

... We trust the mystery that we call faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

HS 79

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Communion Music

A Repeating Alleluia

Calvin Hampton

Prayer After Communion

**Sustaining God, you have met us in bread and wine and surprised us with your joy.
Send us out into the world dancing with delight and with hallelujahs filling our hearts,
to share your justice and your praise. Amen.**

◆ Hymn 238

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

◆ Charge and Benediction

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

Postlude

Easter Oratorio: Sinfonia

J. S. Bach

◆ Please stand, as you are able.

Participating in the service:

David Sariti and Amy Walder, violin

Ayn Balija, viola

Adam Carter, cello

Carl Hamilton, percussion

Welcome to the Westminster community. Make sure you're signed up for our eNews, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, @westminstercville. Visit www.westminsterva.org.

To give, scan the QR code below.



Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Charles Wesley, 1739; Ruth Duck, 1981

EASTER HYMN, 7.7.7.7 with alleluias

Lyra Davidica, 1708; adapt. 1741

1. Je - sus Christ is risen to - day: Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Powers of death have had their day: Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. Shar - ing in Christ's death we rise: Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Glor - y be to God on high: Al - le - lu - ia!

Let the joy - ful peo - ple say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Earth - ly ru - lers have no sway: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Soar like ea - gles to the skies: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry: Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ has shared our earth - ly life: Al - le - lu - ia!
 No - thing more to fear have we: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Find - ing mer - cy, we for - give: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let the name of Christ be sung: Al - le - lu - ia!

Con - quered death to end our strife: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Those who trust in Christ are free: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Off - ring up our lives, we live: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev' - ry - where, by ev' - ry tongue: Al - le - lu - ia!

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Refrain E C#m F#m B

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B E

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B

- 1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

E C#m F#m B to Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

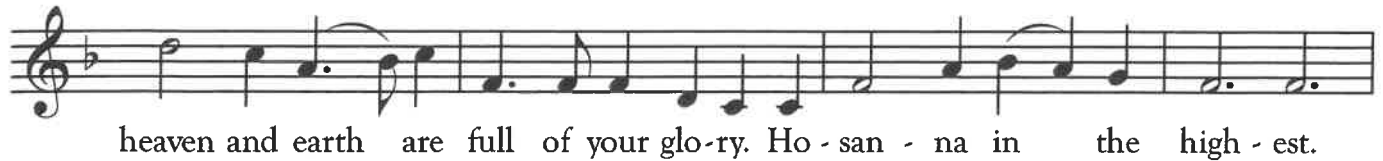
Holy, holy, holy Lord

78

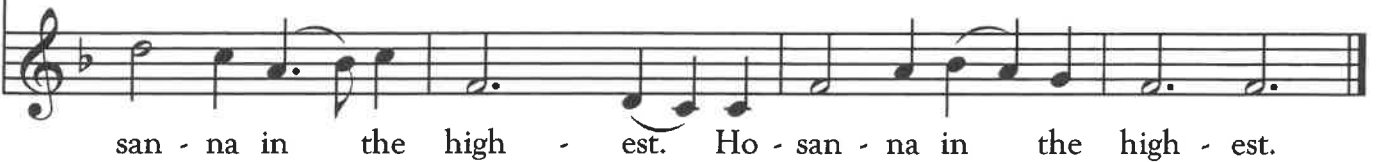
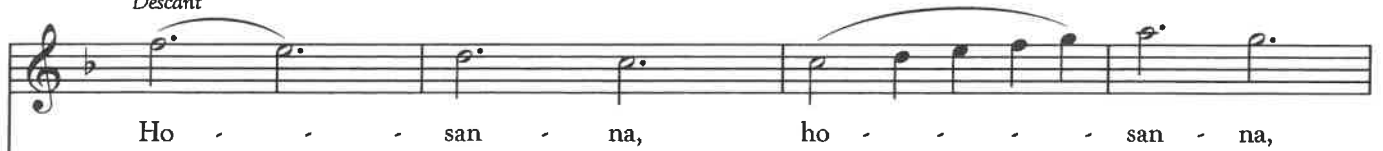
Sanctus

American folk melody,
arr. Marcia Pruner, 1980
descant by Richard Proulx, 1984

LAND OF REST, CM



Descant



Christ has died

79

Memorial Acclamation

American folk melody
arr. Marcia Pruner, 1980



238

Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; end - less is
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic-tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai-ment
 he greets us, scat-ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad-ness
 with-out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con-querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death-less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing
 to thy home a - bove.

This Easter text, first in French and later in English, was written to fit the music, a chorus created for Handel's oratorio *Joshua* and moved to *Judas Maccabeus* in 1751. It grew widely popular following its use at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1948.