

WORSHIP GUIDE EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 4, 2021

Thanks for joining us for this week's worship service. As you gather this morning, take a moment to notice God's creation around you. Give thanks to God for what you see, hear, smell, and feel. Give thanks for the opportunity to gather together again, even in this different way. Notice God's presence and welcome God in.

These resources are also available at www.wyckoffreformed.org/worshipguides
To participate in this service online, join us at wrclive.org or on Facebook Live.

While we are all overjoyed to be together, please do not neglect our physical distancing guidelines. Six feet of separation should be maintained between individuals from different households. Masks should be worn while entering or exiting, but may be removed while seated. There are disposable masks and hand sanitizer on the tables at the entrance if you need either.

If you need to use a restroom, they are available through the Nursery School entrance of the Education Building, near the playground. Please wear your mask, use the hand sanitizer inside the entrance, limit the number of people using the restroom at one time, wash your hands properly afterwards, and please do not venture into the rest of the building.

Bold sections will be read aloud together

* Invites you to rise in body or in spirit

Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #45

Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death.

Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life.

Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

GATHERED BY GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

"KING OF KINGS"

WELCOME

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth, **Amen**.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

One: Jesus Christ

All: is the Light of the World.

One: The Light shines in the darkness,

All: and the darkness did not overcome it.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

ISAIAH 25:6-9 NRSV

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,

of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations;

he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,

and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,

for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

"CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY"

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth, reply: Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia! Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia! Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given; Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now; Alleluia! Every knee to you shall bow. Alleluia!

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

God of truth and love, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death! Yet in such victory, we still live like we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by ways

that lead to death. Met with an empty tomb, we cannot fully believe the triumphant good news proclaimed to us this Easter morning. Can it be true for me, for my neighbor, for my enemy, for the world that so desperately needs God's shalom? Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to believe and rejoice in your kingship, even as it transforms and disrupts the status quo. Help us to live in the world as people transformed and made new by your power, that all may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, our risen King. Amen.

PROMISE OF GRACE

EPHESIANS 2:4-8

"God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

***SONG OF GRACE**

"IN CHRIST ALONE"

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light my strength my song This Cornerstone this solid Ground Firm through the fiercest drought and storm What heights of love what depths of peace When fears are stilled when strivings cease My Comforter my All in All Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death This is the power of Christ in me From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny No power of hell no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand Till He returns or calls me home Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

FAMILY MOMENT

Sara Christie Director of Family Ministry

A children's lesson will be offered during the sermon near the playground.

If your child would like to participate, please sign in as you enter worship.

Children will be dismissed during the offering to meet their teacher by the Kids' Station.

OFFERING

We respond to the love and grace of Jesus by giving back our whole lives to God in worship. In this offering, we give our financial gifts as a symbol that all we have comes from God and is to be used for God's glory. Please continue to support us! To give your gift visit www.wyckoffreformed.org/give, text 201-849-1436, or use the offering box at the Welcome Tent.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him, all creatures here below Praise Him, above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

LISTENING TO GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LUKE 24:1-12

SERMON "THE EMPTY GRAVE"

Rev. Andy Kadzban

RESPONDING TO GOD

APOSTLES' CREED

We join our voices together with Christians throughout the ages and across the world to proclaim these words: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

As we celebrate communion this week, we ask you to bring your own grape juice and bread or cracker. For those who are unable to gather their own elements, a small number of pre-packaged elements will be available from the ushers in the Welcome Tent. If you are joining us from home, please feel free to join in communion as well! This is the table of Christ, and he welcomes ALL who are trusting in him for their salvation. Come, drink deeply and eat heartily, the body and blood of Jesus Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SONG OF SENDING**

"THE STRIFE IS O'ER"

The strife is o'er the battle done; The victory of life is won; The song of triumph has begun: Alleluia, alleluia!

The pow'rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed; Let shouts of holy joy outburst: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped; He rises glorious from the dead; All glory to our risen Head: Alleluia, alleluia!

He closed the yawning gates of hell; The bars from heav'ns high portals fell; Let songs of praise His triumphs tell: Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death's dread sting Your servants free, That we may live, and sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SENT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

"May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up his presence to you and give you his peace, now and always. Amen."

POSTLUDE

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NUMBERS 6:24-26

"The Strife is O'er" Words: Translated by Francis Pott (1861), Music: Vito Aiuto, © 2012 New Jerusalem Music, Used by Permission.