

Covenant

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Easter Sunrise Service

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice!

1 Peter 1:3-6a

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sandy Willson

(Congregational responses are italicized.)

Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are invited to fellowship with us at a Pancake Breakfast beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

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Please join us in gathered worship during one of our morning services: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Covenant Presbyterian Church 65 Old Montgomery Highway Birmingham, Alabama 35209

BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

M HYMN OF RESURRECTION

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? 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!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739. Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708.

PRAYER OF RESURRECTION

Glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him.

Grant that we, who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead, may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

—Book of Common Worship

M HYMN OF JOY

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, Let me be singing when the evening comes.

(Chorus)

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger; Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing, The end draws near and my time has come, Still my soul will sing Your praise unending; Ten thousand years and then forevermore. (Chorus)

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HOMILY

DAVE DRISKILL				

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Joe Strickland

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,

⁹It will be said on that day,

for the Lord has spoken.

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

This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

M HYMN OF SALVATION

"Arise, My Soul, Arise"

Arise, my soul, arise; shake off your guilty fears; The bleeding Sacrifice on my behalf appears! Before the throne my Surety stands, Before the throne my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

Chorus:

Arise, arise, arise, arise my soul arise! Arise, arise, arise my soul arise; Shake off your quilty fears and rise!

He ever lives above, for me to intercede,
His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead;
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.
(Chorus)

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me:
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Don't let that ransomed sinner die!"
(Chorus)

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear; He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear; With confidence I now draw nigh, With confidence I now draw nigh, And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry. (Chorus, twice)

Words: Charles Wesley, 1742. Music: Kevin Twit, 1996.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 20:1-18

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes. "But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks he to God.*