



## EASTER SUNDAY

April 9, 2023

10:30 A.M.

### MEDITATION

“The future story of the Resurrection begins in this life, as a seed planted in the ground. The new life begins now, right here in the midst of this changing and transient world.” –John LaFarge

### GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT TO WORSHIP

*\* Those who are able are invited to stand.*

*We are invited to observe silence during the prelude. Please turn off cell phones. If you have a prayer request, please write it on a “Prayer Card” found in the card rack, and place it in the offering plate. All prayer requests will be lifted up during the Wednesday morning prayer meeting at 9:30 a.m..*

**PRELUDE:** “Risen Today!” arr. S. Tucker  
*Trinity Handbell Choir*

**AN OFFERING OF MOVEMENT AND DANCE**  
*Trinity Dance/Movement Choir*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*(Visitors & members please sign in and date the red folder & pass it on. Please remember late comers.)*

**INTROIT:** “This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made”  
*Choristers, Chamberettes and Jubilee Singers*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**  
One: Hushed footsteps and subdued voices approach the tomb with ointment and spices for the dead, approach with caution and dread.  
**Many: Christ is Alive! His tomb is empty!**  
One: Joy is unbound, only the signs of death remain, the wrappings and trappings of darkness and fear. Where have they taken the body?  
**Many: There is no corpse. Christ is alive! Death could not hold him!**  
One: Christ is unbound, and going before us to Galilee and our town, walking on our streets and hiking on our paths.  
**Many: He’s not far off and remote, but near at hand in our lives.**  
One: Walk and run, whisper and shout, tell the Good News to all. Christ is alive!  
**Many: Christ is alive! Let us rejoice!**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (vv. 1-4) UMH# 302

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**  
Redeeming God, you bring life out of dead ends and hope in the midst of despair. Forgive us for doubting that you are still at work even in the darkest hour, even in the most painful moments. Forgive us for our hesitant action, our cautious compassion, our too-frequent

reluctance. Redeeming God, teach us a stillness that leads to acts of kindness and clarity of vision. Shape in us a trust that leads to faithful witness and bold compassion. Form us in your love that loosens our worry and eases our anger. Make us true disciples—filled with love, acting with justice, and living out hope. Amen.

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

The One who created you is the One who loves you and redeems you. God desires life and not death. In the name of Jesus the Christ you are forgiven and granted life in God. Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” W. Wold  
*Choristers and Chamberettes*

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### LISTENING FOR THE SPIRIT’S WORD TO US

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT:** Rob Powell

### PASTORAL PRAYER

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### PRAYER RESPONSE

**THE SCRIPTURE READING:** John 20: 1-18 (NRSV) N.T. p. 108

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD:**  
One: This is the word of God, for the People of God.  
**Many: Thanks be to God!**

**\*HYMN:** “Christ Is Alive” UMH# 318  
*(No Bible Story Time or Chapel Kids on Easter Sunday.)*

**SERMON:** “A Day of New Beginnings” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun