

# Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024



Prelude

*Now the Green Blade Rises*

*Handbells*

Welcome

## \* Opening Words

One: Christ is Risen!

All: **Risen indeed!**

One: Christ is Risen!

All: **Risen indeed!**

One: Christ is Risen!

All: **Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\* Hymn

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

#233

## Welcoming Each Other

One: Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

All: **For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.**

One: Thankful is the song we sing!

All: **For this day moves us past darkness and despair.**

One: Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

All: **For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.**

One: Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

All: **Christ lives here and now, among us, at this and every moment!**

One: May Christ's peace and presence be known to you.

All: **And also to you.**

One: Let us greet one another, saying "I love you and there's nothing you can do about it."

Prayer of the Day

Scripture

John 20:1-18

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, gasping for breath. “They took the Master from the tomb. We don’t know where they’ve put him.”



Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn’t go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself. Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. No one yet knew from the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. The disciples then went back home.

But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus’ body had been laid. They said to her, “Woman, why do you weep?”

“They took my Master,” she said, “and I don’t know where they put him.” After she said this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn’t recognize him.

Jesus spoke to her, “Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?”

She, thinking that he was the gardener, said, “Sir, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him.”

Jesus said, “Mary.” Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” meaning “Teacher!”

Jesus said, “Don’t cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: “I saw the Master!” And she told them everything he said to her.

## Children’s Time

Sermon

*Looking Through Tears*

Hymn

*Now the Green Blade Rises*

#238

## Prayers of the Church

You are invited to share a prayer or request for prayer. Kinds of prayer include: "**Wow**" (Praise and Celebration), "**Thanks**" (Thanksgiving), "**Help Me**" (Supplication), "**Help Them**" (Intercession), "**Darn**" (Lament), "**Sorry**" (Confession), and "**May you/they be well**" (Blessing).

All: This is our prayer.

## Invitation to Offering

Offertory

*Easter Song*

Handbells

## \*Festival Doxology

Praise God from who all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below,  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God above, ye heav’nly hosts;

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost; Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**\*Hymn**                      *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*                      (See insert)

## **Announcements**

## **Benediction**

**Children:**      Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**All:**              **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Postlude**

*\*Please stand if you are able to do so.*

*This service is recorded. It will be live-streamed and stored online for future use. If you do not wish to be videotaped, please sit in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

*Assisted listening devices are available at the entrance to the Sanctuary.  
Hymnals and Bibles for use during the service are below the seat in front of you,  
or under your seat if you are in the front row.*

## **Worship Participants**

*Rev. Neil Ellingson, Pastor*

*Nancy Nelson, Liturgist*

*Laurie Palesotti, Children's Moments*

*Cooper and Adelyn Schlack, Candlelighters*

*Bell ringers: Laurie Palesotti, Lyn Dauffenbach, Lynn Ries, Dave Linn, Kim Shafer, Jan Shafer, Bev Wood, Michelle, Director*

*Diana Stoll, Piano, Organ*

*Michelle Roche, Videographer, Marimba*

*Artwork:*

*Paul van Dongen (Dutch, 1958–), Verrijzenis (Resurrection), 2006. Watercolor etching, 70 × 33 cm.*

*Kateryna Kuziv (Ukrainian, 1993–), Mary!, 2022. Egg tempera and gilding on gessoed wood, 40 × 40 cm.*