

# Second Sunday of Easter April 7, 2024 10:30 am Morning Worship

## **Prelude**

Prayer (Collect) of Preparation:

Deliver us when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind: Grant that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections, we may worship You in Spirit and in Truth. Amen

## Call to Worship

Leader: O God, you are our God, earnestly we seek you;

Congregation: Our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you,

All: In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Leader: We have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and your glory.

Congregation: Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you.

Leader: We will bless you as long as we live, and in your name we will lift up our hands.

All: Our souls will be satisfied as with fat and rich food; and our mouths will praise you with joyful lips.  $-Psalm\ 63:1-5$ 

### Invocation

Preparation

We focus our hearts and minds in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

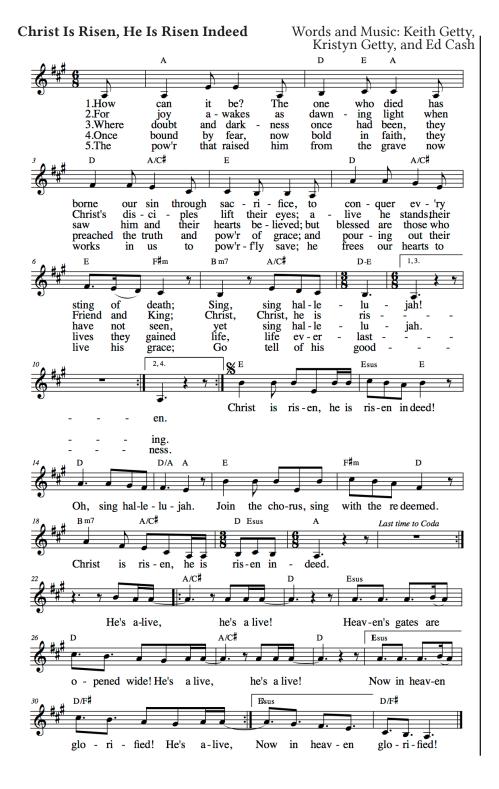
Call to Worship

Rev. Travis Drake

God calls his people to assemble for worship; accordingly the church calls itself together. God's people sing not only as an expression of our love for God but also to remind ourselves of our place in God's redemptive work.

The church is marked by its singing, from Israel's deliverance through the Psalms to our worship today.





### **Confession of Faith**

We join the global and historic church in professing what we believe as Christians, to remind ourselves of the hope we have and the life that hope invites us to live.

#### **Confession of Sin**

In God's presence, the evil that mars our lives – corporate and individual – comes to light. Through Jesus Christ, we are safe to be honest about ourselves because we fear no condemnation.

### **Assurance of Grace**

God declares through his Church that all who repent and believe in Jesus Christ are completely forgiven from all their sins and their guilty consciences cleansed.

### **Confession of Faith**

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?

All: That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

— Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

### Confession of Sin

All: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen. – from the *Book of Common Worship* 

## **Assurance of Grace**

Leader: Now hear this promise of grace and forgiveness from the word of God, from Colossians 1, verses 13 and 19 through 20:

God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins... For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Leader: To those who repent of their sin and look to Jesus Christ for salvation, the forgiveness of sins is fully yours, by the grace of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

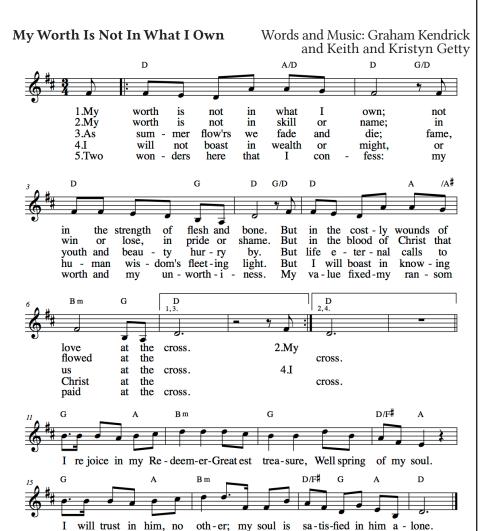
Congregation: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: O Lord, open our lips,

Congregation: and our mouths will declare your praise.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.



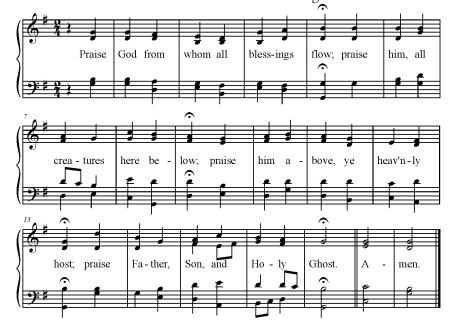
### Offertory

We give back to God our wealth and talents in recognition that they all come from him. These gifts help support the mission and ministries of the church.

## Offertory



Words: Thomas Ken; Music: Louis Borgeouis's *Genevan Psalter* 



# Prayers of the People

We cry out together for grace and mercy in a time of need.

# Prayers of the People

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## Passing of the Peace

We remind each other of the peace given us in the gospel – peace first between us and God, leading to reconciled relationships with each other.

## Life Together

We share important announcements and prayer requests for our church community.

# Dismissal of Children and Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

## Life Together

## Offering Collectors:

Morgan Crago, Serena Jones, Joseph Melkonian, Susanne van Veluw

## **Scripture Reading**

1 Peter 3:14-16, page 1015 in pew Bible

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

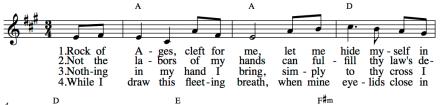
Sermon

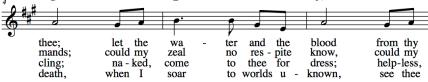
A Hope That Can Face Anything

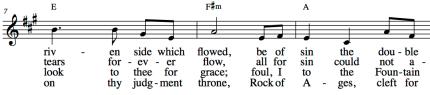
Rev. Matt Miller

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Words: Augustus M. Toplady; Music: Thomas Hastings









Scripture Reading

The public reading of God's Word is integral whenever God's people gather to worship. The first step to faith is listening to his Word.

#### Sermon

God has ordained the preaching of his Word to illuminate and apply the good news of Jesus Christ to our hearts that would remain dull and hard apart from the operation of his Holy Spirit

Lord's Supper

God meets us not only in hearing the Word, but also in visible, tangible form – uniting us with himself spiritually by faith in Christ.

Servers come forward as liturgy begins.

We ask that those in the balcony come forward first, followed by those on the main floor, starting in the back row.

Grape juice is available in the center of each wine tray and gluten-free wafers are in the center of each bread tray for those who desire such. Please hold the elements until all can partake together.

At the end of the service, please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary.

## Lord's Supper

Invitation

Words of Institution

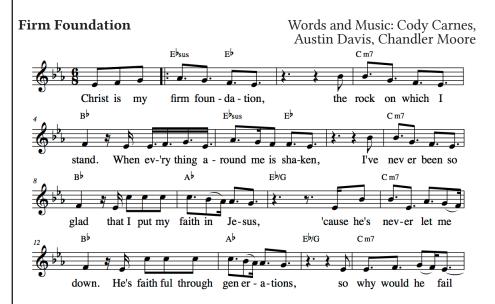
Distributing of Elements

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be unafraid of the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is clear, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer for Those Desiring to Trust in Jesus Christ for the First Time Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed. And I know that through you I am more loved & accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and providing forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord and desire to live a life of loving and serving you. Amen.

Partaking of the Elements



## Communion Servers:

Morgan Crago, Serena Jones, Joseph Melkonian, Susanne van Veluw



## Benediction

### Benediction

We depart with this 'good word' of God's calling upon our lives in the world.