

# resurrection **REALity**

---

**WE HAVE A  
MEANINGFUL  
MESSAGE TO SHARE**

Third Sunday of Easter

*April 14, 2024*

## **RESURRECTION REALITY**

St. Paul writes, “Christ has indeed been raised from the dead” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus’ resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time’s infinite line, Jesus’ resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus’ resurrection proves that “all will be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now.

The greatest theologian of the early church, Augustine, called the season of Easter “a joyful week of weeks”—seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality.

## **WE HAVE A MEANINGFUL MESSAGE TO SHARE**

A platitude is a statement aimed at helping sooth some sort of emotional unease. “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.” Or “Life is a mystery.” Or “Good things come to those who wait.” While platitudes may be well-intentioned, at best they come off as trite. And since platitudes provide no real help, they can actually make a situation worse. Tell the one whose heart is shattering, “Life is a mystery.” They won’t appreciate your platitude or you.

The resurrection gives believers the ability to offer more than platitudes. We have a meaningful message to share—of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power. The reality is we have something important to say to every single person that God brings into our sphere of influence. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

God bless your worship.

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor John Hartmann

**Preacher**

Pastor Adam Mueller

**Organist/Pianist**

Rachel Casmer

**Usher Teams**

**8:00am:** Scott & Conner Etzenhouser, Charlie Weinstein

**10:45am:** Bruce Thomas, Bob Boschee, Clyde Brumfield

**Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this morning were given to the Glory of God by Mary Lou Bradbury, in celebration of her father, Jim's birthday on April 15.

# † ORDER OF SERVICE †

---

*Greeting and welcome*

## **OPENING HYMN**

*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia | 466:1-4*

*Stand*

## **INVOCATION<sup>1</sup>**

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## **ABSOLUTION<sup>2</sup>**

Christ was born. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

---

<sup>1</sup> *The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

<sup>2</sup> *The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" [The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?]. See John 20:21-23.*

# GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN

Gloria (Ger) | 1042



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he  
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our



loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his  
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your



grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glo - ry,  
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly,



might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our joy - ful  
Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the glo - ry



ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.  
of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

Text: Michael A. Perry

Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 710162

Tune: Public domain



---

# The Word

## **SALUTATION<sup>3</sup>**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*The children's devotion is a shortened version of the sermon intended to communicate God's truths in a simplified way. Children 12 and under are encouraged to come forward and participate in the devotion.*

## **FIRST READING**

**Acts 3:11-20**

*Peter uses a healing to witness about the resurrected Christ.*

<sup>11</sup> While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup> When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup> You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup> By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

---

<sup>3</sup> *This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word section of the service.*

17 "Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. 18 But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

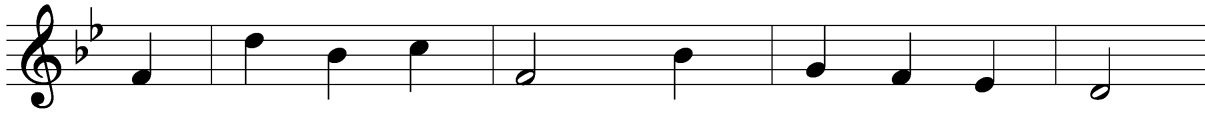
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

*Sing Praise to the LORD | 150(E):1-2,4*

*The congregation will sing the psalm in unison.*



1 Sing praise to the Lord! Praise God in the height;  
2 Sing praise to the Lord! Praise God up - on earth,  
4 Sing praise to the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song



re - joice in his word, you an - gels of light;  
in tune - ful ac - cord, all you of new birth;  
to him be out - poured all a - ges a - long;



O heav - ens, a - dore him by whom you were made,  
praise him who has brought you his grace from a - bove,  
for love in cre - a - tion, for heav - en re - stored,



and wor - ship be - fore him, in bright - ness ar - rayed.  
praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.  
for grace of sal - va - tion, sing praise to the Lord!

*Text: Henry W. Baker  
Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry  
Text and tune: Public domain*

## SECOND READING

1 John 1:5–2:2

*God is light; walking in the light is walking with God.*

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

<sup>1</sup> My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. <sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 24:46,47

Alleluia. The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,  
and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations.

**Alleluia.**



## GOSPEL

Luke 24:36-49

*Jesus sends his disciples to preach repentance and forgiveness in his name.*

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Be seated*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*We Have a Gospel to Proclaim | 741:1,4-6*

*The hymn will be sung to the tune of Hymn 441, "I Know That My Redeemer Lives."*





## **SERMON**

**"Let Jesus Open Your Mind"**

*Luke 24:36-49*

*Stand*

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Be seated*

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

**Karen Benner**

*8:00 a.m. service*

### **FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND MUSICAL OFFERTORY**

*You may place your offering in the one of the plates located in the church entryway before or after the service. To give electronically, go to [redeemertucson.com/offerings](http://redeemertucson.com/offerings).*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of all grace, we thank you for the gift of eternal life in your Son. By the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and by the faithful testimony of the apostles, you have assured us that our faith stands on a sure and solid foundation.

**Though we do not see Jesus with our physical eyes, help us see him with the eyes of faith.**

Through your Holy Spirit, breathe on your Church that it may faithfully proclaim the gospel of our risen Savior with courage and diligence in all lands and to all people.

**Grant that we also may be illumined by the heavenly light of your Word, and so keep us in the one and only true faith.**

Preserve us from all assaults on our souls, deliver us from doubt and despair, and preserve us from worldly wisdom and false teaching. Forgive the sins of your people. Strengthen the doubting and faithless.

**Bring back the forgetful and wayward, and comfort the anxious and the distressed.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

As we go from this holy place today, grant peace and rest to us all.

**We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## SERMON HYMN

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* | **713**

*Stand*

## **PAX DOMINI**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

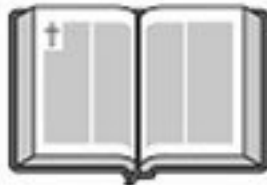
**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

*I Love to Tell the Story* | **746:1,6**

I Love to  
Tell the Story



- ❖ *Please reserve the pews in the back of the church for families with small children.*
- ❖ *Restrooms are located in the entrance area of the church. A changing table is available in the women's restroom.*
- ❖ *A quiet room with a window is available in the entrance area of the church and offers live audio of the service. Parents may use this room to calm a restless child.*
- ❖ *If you would like to know more about Redeemer, visit [redeemertucson.com](http://redeemertucson.com) or contact one of our pastors.*



WWW.REDEEMERTUCSON.COM - (520) 572-8136  
CHURCHOFFICE@REDEEMERTUCSON.COM  
PASTOR ADAM MUELLER - PASTORMUELLER@REDEEMERTUCSON.COM  
PASTOR JOHN HARTMANN - PASTORHARTMANN@REDEEMERTUCSON.COM  
PASTOR DAVID CLARK - PASTORCLARK@REDEEMERTUCSON.COM