



April 4, 2021

9:30 am

## Easter

---

Today we will celebrate Holy Communion. Those who bless and receive the sacrament at home, please prepare food for yourself, in celebration of the Risen Christ and remembering that our oldest telling of this story is in a letter of Paul to the Corinthian church. Those letters were our faith's early "distance learning." The unusual-to-us services of this past year are firmly a part of our tradition. You may prepare a slice or roll of bread, a corn tortilla, Naan, or rice cake, and a cup of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol.<sup>1</sup>



**All are welcome at the Table.**

*Text printed in **BOLD** in the bulletin indicates that everyone is to read and/or sing. However, in our virtual space we ask that all but the readers and musicians remain muted – you can still read aloud and sing at home!*

“Let them praise God’s Name with festive dance;  
Let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.”<sup>2</sup> Psalm 149:3

---

## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Welcome and Life of the Community (Announcements)

Opening Song

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

Richard Blake

### Call to Worship

**One:** God meets us at the sites of life’s bleakest encounters.

**All:** God captures our attention from the grips of despair.

**One:** Hope catches us by surprise, in miracles ordinary and extravagant.

**All:** In the way something holy lingers, even after death.

**One:** In the people’s persistence toward liberation of life.

**All:** In companionship through sorrow, no one left alone.

**One:** Faithfully, love rises to reassure us: Christ lives!

---

<sup>1</sup> Maren Tirabassi, “Holy Communion Liturgy for April 4, 2021,” Gifts in Open Hands, March 26, 2021, <https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2021/03/26/holy-communion-liturgy-for-april-4-2021/>.

<sup>2</sup> *The Inclusive Bible: the First Egalitarian Translation* (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2009), 424.

**All: God is alive. God is with us. We rejoice!**

**Opening Prayer<sup>3</sup>**

**Holy Mystery, your presence is a wonder. Rolling open the tombs within and around us, you declare life where we thought there was only death. May your Spirit move among us, awakening us to the possibilities that persist. Possibilities for joy, for new life, and for the mending of the world. Amen.**

**HEARING THE WORD**

**Scripture Reading**

**Luke 24:1-12**

**Time with Children: An Easter Church**

Pastor Kris

**Anthem**

*Christ is Risen! Alleluia!*

Monsell/Govenor

**Reflection**

**Cultivating: Transformation**

Pastor Kris

**SHARING OUR LIVES**

**Call to Prayer**

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

**Prayers of the People**

*During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Pastor Kris will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: [pastorkris@memorialucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@memorialucc.org)*

**Prayer of Jesus**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**SHARING A MEAL**

*As we worship digitally, you are invited to gather elements for communion from your home. Bread, homemade or purchased, Naan, hardtack, a tortilla, or a cinnamon roll, can become a sacrament. A cup of water or tea can become a remembrance of God's redeeming love. You can "taste and see that God is good," (Psalm 34:8), even if you do not partake. All are welcome at this meal.*

---

<sup>3</sup> Adapted from "Liturgy That Matters, April 4, 2021." Enfleshed, 2021.

## **Invitation to the Table<sup>4</sup>**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

**Pastor Kris:** The Bread on your table is blessed and broken, a meal of grace.

**All: Sharing love, we will never be hungry.**

**Pastor Kris:** The Cup on your table is blessed and shared,  
like the overflowing of tears and joy.

**All: Drinking deeply, we will never thirst.**

### **Musical Interlude**

### *Easter Interlude*

Richard Blake

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Pastor Kris:** In thanksgiving for this meal of grace and in the holy dispersion of virtual worship, we claim the risen Christ's love found on every table. Let us pray ...

**All: O Holy One, we come to you with lilies and tears. We come to you with personal Alleluias that soar like the greatest choir. We claim the resurrection for those we love who are tenderly sheltered in your arms and name the resurrection as your invitation to all the weary, all those who need hope. May our lives become your table in all the world. Amen**

## **GOING OUT TO THE WORLD**

**Song for Going Out #233**                      **Christ the Lord is Risen Today<sup>5</sup>**                      verses 1, 3 & 4

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!**

**Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!**

**Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!**

**Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!**

**Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!**

**Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!**

**God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!**

**Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!**

**Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!**

**Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

### **Benediction**

---

<sup>4</sup> Maren Tirabassi, "Holy Communion Liturgy for April 4, 2021," Gifts in Open Hands, March 26, 2021, <https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2021/03/26/holy-communion-liturgy-for-april-4-2021/>.

<sup>5</sup> Arranged from Lyra Davidica, *London*, 1708. *New Century Hymnal* #233.

**Worship Leaders:**

Jonathan Schroerlucke, Jeff Darwin, Rebecca Malke, Pastor Kris

Readers: Sonjia Short and Lisa Schoenwetter

Music Video Editor: Michael Bryant

Virtual Usher: Steve Gorton

***Stay for Virtual Coffee Hour!***

Following the service, you are invited to stay for conversation. Bring your own coffee, milk and/or donuts! All you need to do is to stay "in" Zoom as the service ends (don't click "leave meeting").

We will break into small groups that will last about 15 minutes. At the beginning of the breakout, introduce yourself, share how you are doing, and/or share where you have seen God this week. At the end of the 15 minutes we will gather again in a larger group and share our experiences.

***Electronic Giving—Now also via PayPal***

Memorial UCC offers an opportunity for you to give via PayPal! You can give securely via charge card, debit card, and direct withdrawal donations. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure, and you do not even need to have a PayPal account to use the service to make one-time or recurring donations. Visit [memorialucc.org](http://memorialucc.org) and click on the "donate" button in the lower, right-hand corner to make your gift.

We understand that the pandemic impacts each of us in unique ways. Thank you to those who regularly give electronically. For those that are able please continue your pledge and non-pledge giving. Checks can be mailed directly to the church. Indicate in the memo line whether the giving is to Memorial operating costs or help to our community wide nonprofit partners. If you are interested in our monthly automatic withdrawal system, please email John Van Overbeke at [jvanoverbe@aol.com](mailto:jvanoverbe@aol.com) and he will get you signed up.

Memorial UCC's ONE LICENSE for streaming: #A-711042

