



**CENTRAL REFORMED CHURCH
EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 31, 2024**

REFLECTION

Question: How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

Answer: First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death.
Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life.
Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

-Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 45

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ORDER OF WORSHIP | EASTER SUNDAY | MARCH 31, 2024 | 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING IN LOVE

The prelude is a call for personal preparation for the worship of God.

Prelude "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" | Healy Willan
"Trumpet Prelude" | Johan Roman, arr. S. Drummond Wolff
"Two Settings on 'Jesus Christ Is Risen Today'" |
William H. Bates, Robert J. Powell

Introit "Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!" | Taemin Han

*Christ is risen, alleluia!
Alleluia, amen.*

Votum, Sentences, Salutation

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
Many: Amen.
One: This is the good news: the grave is empty; Christ is risen!
Many: Alleluia!
One: This is the good news: the light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never put it out.
Many: Alleluia!
One: This is the good news: once we were not a people; now we are God's people!
Many: Alleluia!
One: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the
faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings
of the earth.
Many: Amen.

***Processional Hymn** "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" | 123

***Easter Proclamation** Acts 10:34-43 (page 895)

One: The Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

***Invitation to Confession**

One: God has opened to us the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident in God's love, let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession**

Many: **Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for the victory of Jesus Christ, who was dead but lives among us. Help us trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Listen, church: God, who raised Jesus from the dead, has not given us over to death.

Many: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***Acclamation** *(Spoken three times)*

One: The Lord is risen!

Many: **He is risen indeed!**

***Sung Response**

"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" | 111

***Peace**

One: The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

LISTENING IN EXPECTATION

Children's Moment

Children 4 years-old through 3rd grade are invited to join Teresa Rinvelt and Sara Witmer for a story titled, "Jesus is King." Children will be brought back to the atrium following the conclusion of the Worship. Visiting parents are encouraged to go with their children to meet their teachers.

One: Congregation, what is your prayer for these children?

Many: **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!**

***Hymn**

"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" | 104

***Easter Gospel**

Mark 16:1-8 (page 953)

One: The Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Hey Alexa! What Happened on Easter?"

Prayer for a Blessing on the Word

Silence for Reflection

*Hymn "Christ Is Alive!" | see end of order

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*Apostle's Creed

Many:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

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

Announcements

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

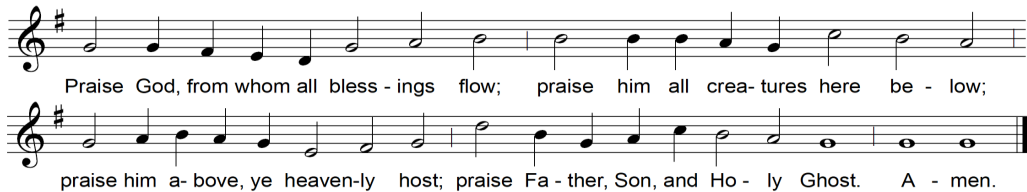
In a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving, let us worship God through the giving of our tithes and offerings. During this time, please fill out the friendship pads and pass them. To receive weekly updates and announcements, please include your e-mail address.

Offertory

"Christ Is Arisen, Let Us Sing" | Kenneth T. Kosche

*Christ is arisen, let us sing, alleluia! Today the grave has lost its sting. Alleluia!
Adoring praises now we bring, alleluia! To Christ our Savior, heavenly King. Alleluia!
Let all the nations praise the Lord, alleluia! Lord God of hosts in heaven adored. Alleluia!
To God the Holy Trinity, alleluia! All praise and thanks eternally. Alleluia!*

*Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him all crea- tures here be - low;
praise him a- bove, ye heav- en-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

During the prayers each week, we remember our neighboring faith communities and their leaders. Today we are praying for Servant's Community Church (RCA).

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

During the prayer:

One: Lord, in your mercy,

Many: Hear our prayer.

The 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 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.

DEPARTING IN JOY

*Hymn

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives" | see end of order

(During the singing of the hymn, the congregation is invited up to the chancel to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus; music scores will be provided.)

***Congregational Choir** *Hallelujah Chorus | G. F. Handel*

*Charge and Blessing

One: Whoever you are, wherever you go in God's wide world,
Whatever happens to you of good or ill, always remember that. . .

Many: Jesus is Lord!

One: And now live this day and always for Christ Jesus
because the Risen Christ lives in you.

Many: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Postlude "Toccata from the Fifth Organ Symphony" | Charles Marie Widor

The Flowering of the Cross

(Please join us outside the main sanctuary entrance, on College Avenue, for the Flowering of the Cross, an ancient Christian tradition. Flowers will be made available in the narthex. After participating, kindly return to the atrium for coffee and other refreshments. He who was dead has come back to life! Happy Easter!)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Principal Organist: Norma de Waal Malefyt

Director of Music Ministries: Taemin Han

Chancel Choir

Trumpeter: Maxwell Gradisher

Trombonist: Paul Troost

Celebration Ringers

Crucifer: Owen Andrew

Acolyte: Campbell Pierce

Liturgist: Rev. Matt Shults

First Lesson Reader: Dennis Kellermeier

Preacher: Rev. Steven D. Pierce

Offertory Prayer: Paul Bukaweski

Video Tech: Chris Witmer

Sound Tech: Tom Smith

"CHRIST IS ALIVE!"

TRURO

Brian Wren

Thomas Williams, 1869-1944



All: 1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing, The
Choir: 2. *Christ is a - live!* No lon - ger bound To
All: 3. In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift and war, Where
Choir: 4. *Wom - en and men,* in age and youth, Can
All: 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring Good



cross stands emp - ty to the sky, Let
dis - tant years in Pal - es - tine, But
col - or, scorn or wealth di - vide, Christ
feel the Spir - it, hear the call, And
 news to this and ev - 'ry age, Till



streets and homes with prais - es ring, Love,
sav - ing, heal - ing, here and now, And
 suf - fers still, yet loves the more, And
find the way, the life, the truth, Re -
 earth and sky and o - cean ring With



drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 lives, where e - ven hope has died.
vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 joy, with jus - tice, love and praise.

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"I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES"

V. 1, 2, 5, & 7

D G D E A D

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What joy this
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 3 He lives to sil - ence all my fears; he lives to
 4 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to

G D Em D A D A D

blest as - sur - ance gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
 plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry

G Em A D G D Em D/A A7 D

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ing to im - part.
 soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.

- 5 He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend;
 he lives and loves me to the end;
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 6 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;
 he lives my mansion to prepare;
 he lives to bring me safely there.

7 He lives, all glory to his name!
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;
 what joy this blessed assurance gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

*Sincerest thanks for the generosity of those who contributed to the beauty of our Sanctuary this day with the purchase of Easter Flowers. **Please** take your plant(s) home following today's worship service.*

The lilies today honor those living saints who can no longer worship with us in person.

GIVEN BY

Brian, Jennifer, Emma & Owen Andrew

Donna Bogert

David & Ruth Brouwer

Paul Bukaweski & Steve Timmer

Mark & Sally Bulthuis

Dr. William S. Davidson II & Mary M. DuChene

Thomas M. Folkert

Marilyn Klyn Galer

Ingrid Gerger

The Hager Family

Martha Norden Harvey

The Hoezee Family

Mary Jewell

Don Keegstra

The Keizer Family

The McWilliams Family

Bill & Pat Mills

Gary & Faye Myers

Bea Nagel

Nancy & John Norden

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Peter & Karen Payette

Murl, Gregory & Mitchell

Al & Phyllis Brouwer; Irv & Norma Lemmen

John & Kathy Timmer; Ellen Bukaweski

Our Parents

William S. & Barbara S. Davidson;
Lynne A. (Groendyke) Davidson

Charlotte Geelhoed, Leslie Peart, Jim &
Betty Herlein; Dale & Sara Stoppels

James F. Galer & In honor & memory
of the extended Klyn family

Ed Gerger

Jim & Marge Hager; Bob & Betty DeYoung ;
Tim Hager

My father, The Rev. Russell L. Norden

Our parents & grandparents;
Morrie & Sylvia Tubergen

Aunt Mary Bohl; My parents & stepfather

Mary E. & Susan M. Keegstra

Tom Keizer

Jim Riekse, Jr.; Jim & Helena Riekse

Bud & Mina Zoet

Harvey & Ella DeGood, Maynard & Evelyn Myers,
Harvey J. DeGood

Clara, John Nagel & Marty Nagel

Jim Sr. & Helena Riekse;
Marshall & Pat Norden;
Jim Riekse Jr.

Ken & Bonnie Noorman

Our parents

Fred & Millie Overeem

Marion & Anna Chipman;
Fred & Lucy Overeem

Helen E. Phillips

Barb & Bill, Mom & Dad

Steve & Monica Pierce

Our grandparents

Randy & Tina Poelman

Randy's Grandma: Jane Kooienga

Donna Marie Post

Mary Ada Fisher

The Shults Family

Our grandparents

Kathy & Stu Stewart

Lauren Stewart & Jerome Hall

The TerMaat Family

The Rev. Dr. Richard TerMaat

Burt & Kathy VanderLaan

Our parents

David H. VanDyke

Janet E. VanDyke; Gilbert & Irene VanDyke

Ethan, Angela, Bronco & Blazer Wheeler

In honor & memory of loved ones

The Witmer Family

Martin & Nancy Bolt

GIVEN BY

IN HONOR OF

Matt & Nicole Albertson

Landon & Ada

Dan Ballast

My wife Linda & sons: Brad & Matt

Donna Bogert

Amy & Dan

Jim & Margie Brink

Our Grandkids:

Sophie, Bryce, Theo, Lauren, & Wesley

The Chancel Choir

Norma de Waal Malefyt, Taemin Han,
and our Choral Scholars: Anna & Carlos

Thomas M. Folkert

Tim & Sarah Elzinga



Central Reformed Church
10 College Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
616.456.1773
centralreformedchurch.org

Connecting all people to God and to one another through scripture, sacrament, song, and service.