



Worship for Resurrection Sunday

April 9, 2023

10:30am

“All the hopes and expectations of Christians are realized in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, making Easter the most celebrative day of the church year. The Easter morning service is a time of joy, celebration, and renewal. Even churches that do not customarily follow the church year celebrate this day as the culmination of all that the gospel is about. The liturgical colors are white and gold. In contrast to the somber starkness of Holy Week, on Easter the worship space should be bright and celebratory. Music and songs reflect the full joy of the victorious Christian faith because of Christ’s resurrection”

– The Worship Sourcebook

GATHERING

*Gospel Reading – Luke 24:1-12

Prelude

Call to Worship – based on Hymn #246

Christ is alive! Let us Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel God’s living Spirit, hear God’s great call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus our Lord, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

*Hymn #246

Christ Is Alive!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Greeting

CONFESSING

Prayers of Confession

O God our Father,
you gave your only Son,
and therefore your very Self,
to suffer death on the cross for our redemption,
and by his glorious and surprising resurrection you delivered us from the power of death.

**Grant us the grace
to die daily to all sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his remarkable resurrection,
and grant us the grace to bless others
with your glorious and surprising love.**

**Through Jesus our Christ and our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever, hear our prayers ...**

Affirmation of Faith – from the Presbyterian Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Response to Forgiveness #243

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!

Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

Remembering our Baptisms and Giving Thanks for God's Blessings

*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering our Offerings for Ministry

Offertory Anthem

*Response — Doxology #606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

LISTENING

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Illumination

Scripture – Colossians 3:1-4

Hymn #245 (remain seated)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

“Christ the Lord is risen today!” Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Scripture – Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon – “He is going ahead of you to Galilee...”

*Hymn #248

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: “Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

DEPARTING

*Charge and Benediction

*Sung Response

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace; perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face and His grace forever.
May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Postlude



Information & Announcements

Welcome to our guests!

Whether you are sharing in the worship of God with us for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or returning for a visit to your home church, we welcome you today in the name of Jesus. Please share some contact information with us so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship. You may email our church office at admin@northminstermacon.org.

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Kathy Wheeler; Frank & Evelyn Clark; Lynn Southerland; Tom Jones; Nancy Miles; Kathy McCord - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Joel Jones; Nelda Crow; Sara Walcott - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Walker Wright (Mayhew's grandson); James Watwood

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory, in honor, and in celebration of loved ones. Please see today's insert.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development. Their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. We will collect this offering today.

Macon Recovers – Hygiene Pantry Restock

Our wonderful neighbors at Macon Recovers are holding a Hygiene supply drive from March 1 through April 30. Supplies requested include but are not limited to shampoo & conditioner, cleansing wipes, body wash, deodorant, wash cloths, shaving cream and more. You may drop off your donations Tuesday through Saturday between 11^{AM} and 7^{PM} next door at 595 Wimbish Rd.

Baseball in the Dominican Republic

Northminster has an incredible opportunity to help get children and youth in the Dominican Republic off the streets and into a sport that can help them in amazing ways. If you have any baseball equipment – bats, gloves, cleats, balls, bases – collecting dust in your closets, please bring them to the church by April 30th. We are also collecting monetary donations to help with shipping of the donated equipment and providing purchase of additional equipment.

Opportunity for 2023 high school graduates

Sunday, April 23rd after church, our graduating seniors will have an exciting opportunity to gather as a small group and talk with member, Amy Maley, about budgeting, finance, and being money-savvy and talk with elder, Jeff Denny, about what to expect and how to handle those first years away from home and beginning college life. Lunch will be provided. If your senior (or any of their friends) would like to attend, please let Donna Shuford know.

Youth Car Wash – April 29th

Come out to Northminster Saturday, April 29th between 10AM-noon to get your car washed. This is the final fundraising opportunity for our youth to attend the Montreat conference this summer. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

5th Sunday Lunch – April 30th

Nita McCord and the Northminster Session are excited to be rejuvenating our 5th Sunday lunches! These lunches are a blessed opportunity to come together after the worship service for food and fellowship. Mark your calendars for April 30th (please note – this is a correction from the April newsletter) and join us after worship for lunch. You can RSVP, so we know how much food to prepare, to Jennifer at admin@northminstermacon.org or sign up on your blue response sheet.

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together, and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News; SESSION of Ruling Elders: Kari Alderman; Jeff Denny; Barbara Fatkin; Nita McCord; Jinny McDuffie; Ray Mosely; Michael Napier; Donna Shuford; Minor Vernon; Genny Whitaker

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate GUNNER CHANCEY, Director of Music
KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

In-Office hours this week: Sunday, Monday, Thursday 9:00-1:00

Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

All rights reserved, License #1244003