

EASTER DAY SUNRISE SERVICE

* EASTER GREETING

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

Leader: Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

* LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Mr. Sebastian Kulwicki

* OPENING HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today

Easter Hymn

1. Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. But the pains which he en - dured, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, — Al - - le - lu - ia!

Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as God's love, — Al - - le - lu - ia!

Who did once up - on the cross, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Praise our God, ye heav'n - ly host, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Suf - fer - to re - deem our loss, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing, — Al - - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, — Al - - le - lu - ia!

Written by Hippolytus of Rome, Third century

Leader The shadows seized a body:

All and found it was God.

Leader They reached for earth:

All and what they held was heaven.

Men They took what they could see: it was what no one sees.

Women Where is death's god? Where is the shadow's victory?

All Christ is risen:

Leader the world below is in ruins.

All Christ is risen:

Women the spirits of evil are fallen.

Men the angels of God are rejoicing.

All Christ is risen:

Leader the tombs are void of their dead.

All Christ has indeed arisen from the dead:

Leader the first of those who sleep.

All Glory and power are Christ's for ever and ever. Amen.

* PASSING THE PEACE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

Dr. Lanier Holt

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 10:34–43

Naomi Holt

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¶ When Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who

were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Leader

The Word of God for the people of God.

People

Thanks be to God.

SOLO

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles

THE EASTER GOSPEL

Mark 16: 1–8

Ruby Holt

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Leader

The Word of God for the people of God.

People

Thanks be to God.

EASTER HOMILY

“Love Rising”

Dr. Ahrens

(Last of the sermon series, *The Journey Back to Love*)

PRAYERS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dr. Ahrens

**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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

MISSION INVITATION

Dr. Ahrens

Cash and designated checks go to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, which joins our hearts with God’s by providing decisive aid when disaster strikes, and by helping refugees rebuild their lives. Gifts strengthen struggling communities with basics like education, health care, tools, seeds and wells. Thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dr. Rachael Holt

HOLY COMMUNION

Dr. Ahrens

* CLOSING HYMN

Amen

African-American Spiritual

Refrain: Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

1 See the baby,
lyin’ in the manger
on Christmas mornin’. [Refrain]

2 See Him at the temple,
talkin’ to the elders;
how they marveled at his wisdom,

3 See Him at the Jordan
where John was baptizin’
and savin’ all sinners. [Refrain]

4 See Him at the seaside,
talkin’ to the fishermen
and makin’ them disciples. [Refrain]

5 Marchin’ in Jerusalem,
over palm branches,
in pomp and splendor. [Refrain]

6 See Him in the garden,
prayin’ to His Father,
in deepest sorrow.

7 Led before Pilate,
then they crucified Him,
but He rose on Easter. [Refrain]

8 Hallelujah!
He died to save us
and He lives for ever. [Refrain]

LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *co-celebrant & preacher*

Dr. Rachael Frush-Holt, *co-celebrant & liturgist*

Dr. Lanier Holt, *liturgist*

Ms. Ruby Holt, *liturgist*

Ms. Naomi Holt, *liturgist*

Sebastian Kulwicki, *soloist*

*The Congregation, Council, and Staff
wish you a Blessed Easter!*