

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
April 16, 2017
Eight Forty-five and Eleven o'clock
Easter Sunday

Everyone is welcome at West End! We seek to be the loving light of Christ in Nashville and beyond. We gather as the people of God with a wide range of religious backgrounds, education levels, political and theological perspectives, and we value that diversity. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all without regard to gender, race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical ability. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!

GATHERING

Voluntary: Saraband for the Morning of EasterHerbert Howells

Introit: Easter Introit Matthew Phelps
Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have died.
Christ the Lord is risen from the dead.
For since death came through a human being,
the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being.
Christ the Lord is risen from the dead.
For as all die in Adam so all will be made alive in Christ.
Christ the Lord has saved our souls from death.
Victorious is the King of Kings.
Jesus Christ is risen. Alleluia!

† Processional Hymn No. 302Easter Hymn, arr. Wilson
Christ the Lord is Risen Today

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

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

(Interlude)

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

(Interlude)

**Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!**

† Easter Proclamation
Liturgist: *Christ is risen!*
People: **Christ is risen indeed!**
Liturgist: *Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation!*
People: **Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!**

† Greeting..... Chris Allen
Liturgist: *Christ is risen!*
People: **God's steadfast love endures forever.**
Liturgist: *Death has lost its sting.*
People: **God's steadfast love endures forever.**
Liturgist: *Rejoice in this day of salvation.*
People: **God's steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia!**

Voluntary: Rondo of PraiseMichael Helman

Call to Confession

Easter Collect (*in unison*)
**Merciful God,
we confess that we cling to our assumptions
about how life on earth should unfold,
forgetting that life in your realm
shatters those expectations.
Forgive us when we go through our daily routine,
forgetting to look for the Risen One in our midst.
Open our eyes and our hearts, O God,
to the full awareness of your presence with us,
in each and every moment of our lives.
New Light has shined in our deep darkness.
Restore us again to your presence.
We pray in the name of the Christ who is alive!
Amen.**

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Easter Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*)
**Resurrecting God, open our hearts to your Holy Word
so that we may truly understand; and understanding,
that we may believe; and believing, that we may follow
Jesus Christ in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. Amen.**

† Lesson from the Gospel: Matthew 28: 1-10 (pew Bible, pages 811)

† Response to the Lessons
Liturgist: *Great is the mystery of the Gospel.*
People: **Thanks be to God.**

† Hymn No. 304: Easter People, Raise Your Voices.....Regent Square

**Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.**

**Fear of death can no more stop us
from our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us to
triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.**

**Every day to us is Easter,
with its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster
to our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.**

Sermon: Can Life Really Come Out of Death?.....Michael Williams

† Affirmation of Faith from I Corinthians and Colossians (*in unison*)
**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:
Christ died for our sins, was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.
Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God.
Amen.**

Joys & Concerns of the Church Erin Racine

Salutation
Liturgist: *The Lord be with you.*
People: **And also with you.**
Liturgist: *Let us pray.*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)
**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Offertory Anthem: He Walks the Road.....Dominick DiOrio

They walk the road but not alone
Approaching home as night comes near.
The sorrows of the day repeated,

He walks the road a stranger
The only one who knows.
And hears his life/death story told,

A tale of loss they think is all their own.
They speak of death and dreams defeated.
"Are you the only one who did not hear?"

"We thought he was the one foretold,
The one to keep us from all danger
And the power of the Romans overthrow."

"Come in and eat," they say at journey's end,
He sits at table with them, breaks the bread.
They watch him in their brokenness and dread
And recognize the stranger as their friend.
(Michael Williams)

† Doxology.....No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 303: The Day of Resurrection.....Lancashire

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.**

† Benediction

† Benediction Response: Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*..... G. F. Handel

Voluntary: Toccata from *Fifth Organ Symphony*.....Charles-Marie Widor

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Head Ushers

John Nance & Byron Burrus (8:45) – Barbara Cragg (11:00)

The altar flowers this Easter morning are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Burton Wilkerson Rice, his mother, Helen Wilkerson Rice,
and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Burton Wilkerson,
by Judith, William and Elizabeth Rice.

The rose on the Communion table celebrates the birth of
Emma Catherine Pettigrew, born March 21 to Durham and Sarah Pettigrew.
She is also welcomed by her big brother Charlie.

The commissioning of "He Walks the Road" was made possible
by a gift from Lee Parmley, made in honor of his Heavenly Father,
and in memory of his earthly father Dr. Clifford Parmley.

Music Participants: The Chancel Choir and Joy Ringers. Minister of Music,
Matthew Phelps, director. Associate Minister of Music, Andrew Risinger,
organist. Patrick Dunnevant, baritone. Brass quartet: Emery Hicks, Jeffrey
Kitchens, Jon Warburton, Roy Agee. Caitlin Dowling is conducting the
Hallelujah Chorus this morning.

Hymnic Notes: The processional, Charles Wesley's hymn for Easter Day in
praise of the risen Christ, is written in the present tense and thus unites us
with the first communities to experience and witness to the power of the
resurrection. 'Easter people raise your voices,' by United Methodist pastor and
social activist, William M. James, who ministered to gangs and the homeless
in East Harlem, New York City, reminds us that every day is Easter with
the resurrection power to 'right the wrongs,' and 'triumph over every foe.'
The recessional is freely translated from the eighth-century Greek Easter
"Golden Canon," also called the "Queen of Canons," linking the mighty acts of
God: the Hebrews' exodus and Jesus' resurrection.

April 16, 2017 – Easter

"Can Life Really Come Out of Death?"

Matthew 28: 1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary
Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly
there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending
from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His
appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear
of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said
to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus
who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.
Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples,
'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of
you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you."
So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his
disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they
came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said
to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee;
there they will see me."

Alleluia



HE IS RISEN



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