



# Worship Bulletin

Dear Ones,

"... and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. The third day he rose again from the dead..."

We say these words of the creed very regularly. They never change. They never change because they reflect and summarize what we believe and ultimately celebrate today.

How you celebrate Easter today might be quite different from how you have celebrated in the past: no family gatherings, no family pictures, no Easter egg hunts.

And yet He is risen. He is risen indeed. That fact never changes and is the hope of the church.

Grieve and rejoice today, and hope.

Warmly,  
Steve

## God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

### Easter Sunday

We are now in the season of Easter—a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death. Followers of Christ are called to a life of dying to sin, rising to the life of the Spirit, and participating in His reign as the Sovereign Lord. The Church now lives as those who are "risen with Christ," living under His rule.

### Preparation for Worship on Easter Sunday

*Take Away the Stone*

"Who is to say which is more incredible – a man who raises the dead or a God who weeps?" -Ken Gire

"Jesus was the only one that ever raised the dead,' The Misfit continued, 'and He shouldn't have done it. He thrown everything off balance. If He did what He said, then there's nothing for you to do but throw away everything and follow Him, and if He didn't, then it's nothing for you to do but enjoy the few minutes you got left the best way you can'." -Flannery O'Connor, "A Good Man is Hard to Find"

"Christ did not come into the world that we might understand Him, but that we might cling to Him, that we might simply let ourselves be swept away by Him into the immense event of the resurrection." -Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### Call to Worship

*The angel speaks to the women at the empty tomb, Matthew 28:5-6*

"Do not be afraid,  
as you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.  
He is not here; He has risen, just as He said."

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed.  
Alleluia!**

### Invocation

### Song of Adoration

#### CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!  
Christ has burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

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

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia!  
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n, Alleluia!  
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!  
Hail, the Resurrection, Thou, Alleluia!

*"Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."  
- 1 Corinthians 15:57  
Charles Wesley (1739); Tune EASTER HYMN, Lyra Davidica (1708)  
Public Domain*

### Welcome

*We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are "visiting" our church for the first time, we encourage you to send us an email at [mail@wepc.org](mailto:mail@wepc.org) to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.*

### Declaring the Faith

#### The Apostles' Creed

*The Apostles' Creed is a concise summary of the teachings of the apostles of Jesus Christ as they are recorded in the New Testament. This creed originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century. The Apostles' Creed is recognized to contain the essential beliefs of Christianity by all Protestant, Roman Catholic & Eastern Orthodox churches.*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Reflecting on the Apostles' Creed

*Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 57 & 58 (1563)*

Christian, how does "the resurrection of the body" comfort you?

**Not only will my soul be taken immediately after this life to Christ its Head,<sup>1</sup> but also my very flesh will be raised by the power of Christ, reunited with my soul and made like Christ's glorious body.<sup>2</sup>**

How does the article concerning "life everlasting" comfort you?

**Even as I already now experience in my heart the beginning of eternal joy,<sup>1</sup> so after this life I will have perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise God forever.<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Luke 23:43, Phil. 1:21-23; <sup>2</sup> I Cor. 15:20, 42-46, 54, Phil. 3:21, I John 3:2;

<sup>3</sup> Rom. 14:17; <sup>2</sup> John 17:3, I Cor. 2:9

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 65:17-24*

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear."

## THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Let us pray for the peace of the world,  
for the welfare of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all peoples,  
we pray to You, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust that they may serve in wisdom, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person. For President Trump, for the leaders of the nations, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth, we pray to You, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Richmond, the Commonwealth of Virginia,  
for every city and community, and for those who live in them,  
we pray to You, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans,  
all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,  
and for the sick, the wounded, and the suffering.  
Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;  
give them courage and hope in the midst of their troubles,  
and bring them the joy of your salvation, we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For those that have lost, in death, the ones they love.  
For all who continue in the hope of the resurrection of the dead,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed  
and the destitute, for prisoners and captives,  
and for all who remember and care for them,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For comfort and help for the weak-hearted;  
for You to raise up those who fall;  
and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who do not yet believe,  
and for those who have struggled in the faith,  
that they may rest in the truth of the Gospel,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence,  
oppression, and degradation, we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For our enemies and those who endeavor to do us harm,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That it may please You to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and  
slanderers, and to turn their hearts to You in repentance,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For all whom we have injured or offended.  
For the forgiveness and remission of our sins,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness  
she may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth,  
we pray to You, Lord.  
**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

## Offering

*If participation in the offering is part of your weekly worship, please either mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229) or visit our website ([www.wepc.org/resources/giving](http://www.wepc.org/resources/giving)) for online giving options.*

## Song of Praise

### BREAK EVERY CHAIN

*There is power in the name of Jesus.  
There is power in the name of Jesus.  
There is power in the name of Jesus.  
To break every chain, break every chain,  
break every chain.*

All sufficient sacrifice,  
So freely given, such a price,  
For our redemption, heaven's gates swing wide.

*"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow." -Philippians 2:10  
Will Reagan, ©2009 Capitol CMG Genesis, United Pursuit Music (admin. Capitol CMG Publishing); Used by permission. CCLI #708363*

## God the Son Renews Us through His Word

### Scripture Reading

*John 11:28-53*

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." <sup>44</sup> The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, <sup>46</sup> but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." <sup>49</sup> But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. <sup>50</sup> Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish."

<sup>51</sup> He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>52</sup> and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. <sup>53</sup> So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

## Sermon

### God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

### Confession of Sin

**Almighty God, by the power of Your Spirit You have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before Him or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have often persisted in ways that lead to death, and failed to give Him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be Your faithful people. Lift our eyes to look upon our Savior that we might live. Help us to see Jesus Christ who rules all things and is Head of the Church, His Body. Amen.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

*"God, have mercy on me, a sinner." -Luke 18:13  
Ancient Greek hymn, 4th century; arr. Trenton Durham, 2019*

## Words of Encouragement

*Colossians 2:9-10, 13*

In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. When you were dead in your sins...God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins.

## Songs of Response to God's Grace

### HE IS RISEN

He is risen, He is risen, and the stone is rolled away.  
He is risen, He is risen, proven by the empty grave.

Touch his wounds, His hands, His sides,  
And leave all your doubts behind. He is risen, He is risen.

Death is beaten, sin is vanquished, God's just wrath is satisfied.  
Christ is risen, Christ exalted, seated at the Father's side.

His body torn, our living way, our living hope, His body raised.  
He is risen, He is risen, He is risen from the grave.

*He is risen, He is risen, this is all my hope and stay.  
He is risen, He is risen, He is risen from the grave!*

Jesus risen is returning; we are longing for the day  
When the King will bring the kingdom.  
For this blessed hope we wait.

The trumpet sounds and we are changed  
and we will see him face to face.  
Jesus risen, Jesus risen, Jesus risen from the grave.

The trumpet sounds and we are changed  
And death itself will pass away.  
We are risen, fully risen, we are risen from the grave.  
We are risen, with him risen, we are risen from the grave.

*"He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." -I Peter 1:3*  
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## I WILL RISE

There's a peace I've come to know  
Though my heart and flesh may fail.  
There's an anchor for my soul; I can say, "It is well."

Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed.  
The victory is won; He is risen from the dead.

*I will rise when He calls my name;  
No more sorrow, no more pain.  
I will rise on eagles' wings before my God,  
Fall on my knees and rise; I will rise.*

There's a day that's drawing near  
When this darkness breaks to light.  
And the shadows disappear and my faith shall be my eyes.

And I hear the voice of many angels sing: "Worthy is the Lamb."  
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart:  
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb.

*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles." -Isaiah 40:31*  
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Louie Giglio, Matt Maher ©2008 sixsteps Music  
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## REJOICE THE LORD IS KING

Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore.  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing  
And triumph evermore, and triumph evermore...

*Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice*

His Kingdom cannot fail.  
He rules o'er earth and Heav'n.  
The keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus giv'n, are to our Jesus giv'n.

Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Our Lord, the King will come  
and take His servants up  
To their eternal home, to their eternal home.

*"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." -Philippians 4:4*  
Charles Wesley (1746); Tune: Alex Mejias, ©2009 5PM Records.  
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## GOD WHO SAVES

There is life in the blood of the Lamb who was slain.  
There is power, there is power in His name.  
There is love pouring out of the wounds that were made,  
Pouring out, pouring over our shame.

*So praise the God who saves.  
Praise the God who bled.  
Praise the God who was nailed to a tree  
And wore our sins upon His head.*

There is truth in his body, raised that third day.  
There is joy in a stone rolled away.  
There is hope pouring out of the tomb where he lay,  
Pouring out, pouring over the grave

*"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." -II Corinthians 5:21*  
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## DOXOLOGY

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

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." -Psalm 150:6*  
Thomas Ken (1709); Tune: "Old 100th", Louis Bourgeois (1551)

## Benediction

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**Pastor Steve Shelby** preached today's sermon. Worship was led by **Pastor Kevin Greene**. **Worship Arts Coordinator Becca Wethered**, **Pastor Kevin Greene**, and **Sarah Jurewicz** led this morning's congregational singing.  
**Pastor Joe Brown**, **Elder Rick McWhorter**, and **Jeremy D'Errico** managed today's video live stream.