

Christ Church Liturgy March 27, 2016

Meditation

Matthew 28:5-6

"Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said."

God Calls Us to Worship

1 Peter 1:18-21

Know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from the fathers, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was chosen before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the times for you who through Him are believers in God. **AMEN**

The Glorious Declaration

Leader: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Congregation: I know that my redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth.

Leader: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed! **AMEN**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today - Trinity Hymnal 277

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and trimphs 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! AMEN

Responsive Reading: I Corinthians 15:20-28

Leader: But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.

Congregation: For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ’s at His coming. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

Leader: For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

Congregation: Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all. AMEN

Worship Christ, The Risen King!

Hymn 286

1 Rise, O church, and lift your voices,
Christ has conquered death and hell.
Sing as all the earth rejoices;
Resurrection anthems swell.

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the risen King!

2 See the tomb where death had laid him,
Empty now, its mouth declares:
“Death and I could not contain him,
For the throne of life he shares.”
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the risen King!

3 Hear the earth protest and tremble,
See the stone removed with pow'r;
All hell's minions may assemble,
But cannot withstand his hour.
He has conquered, he has conquered,
Christ the Lord, the risen King!
4 Doubt may lift its head to murmur,
Scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
But the truth proclaims a wonder
Thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
He is risen, he is risen,
Now receive the risen King!

5 We acclaim your life, O Jesus,
Now we sing your victory;
Sin or hell may seek to seize us,
But your conquest keeps us free.
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph,
Worship Christ, the risen King! AMEN

Confession of Sin:

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. **AMEN**

Silent Confession followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Congregation: O God, who takes delight in helping the afflicted, help a soul too often distressed with an inward rebellion against Your just appointments. Who am I, that I should make exceptions against the Will of God, infinitely great, wise, and good? I know not the things that are for my good. My earnest desires, if granted, may prove my ruin. The things I complain of and fear, may be the effects of the greatest mercy. The disappointments I meet with, may be absolutely necessary for my eternal welfare. I do therefore protest against the sin and madness of desiring to have my will done, and not the will of God. Grant, gracious Father, that I may never dispute the reasonableness of Your will, but ever close with it, as the best that can happen. Prepare me always for what Your providence shall bring forth. Let me never murmur, be dejected, or impatient, under any of the troubles of this life; but ever find rest and comfort in this, this is the will of my Father, and of my God: this for Jesus Christ's sake. **AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. **AMEN**

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Hymn 279

1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands,
for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands
and brings us life from heaven;
therefore let us joyful be
and sing to God right thankfully
loud songs of hallelujah. Hallelujah!

2 It was a strange and dreadful strife
when life and death contended;
the victory remained with life,
the reign of death was ended;

Holy Scripture plainly saith
that death is swallowed up by death,
his sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!

3 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
whom God so freely gave us;
he died on the accursed tree -
So strong his love! — to save us.
See, his blood doth mark our door;
faith points to it, death passes o'er,
and Satan cannot harm us. Hallelujah!

4 So let us keep the festival
whereto the Lord invites us;
Christ is himself the Joy of all,
the Sun that warms and lights us.
By his grace he doth impart
eternal sunshine to the heart;
the night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!

5 Then let us feast this joyful day
on Christ, the Bread of heaven;
the Word of grace hath purged away
the old and evil leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed,
he is our meat and drink indeed;
faith lives upon no other. Hallelujah! AMEN

The Nicene Creed

Trinity Hymnal, Page 846

Intercessory Prayer

Philippians 3:8-11

Philippians 3:8-11 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. AMEN

God Consecrates Us with His Word

The Reading of the Scriptures: Colossians 3:1-4:6

The Sermon: "How to Celebrate Easter"

Sing Choirs of New Jerusalem

Hymn 271

1 Sing, choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
your sweetest notes employ
the paschal victory to hymn
in songs of holy joy,
in songs of holy joy,
in songs of holy joy!

2 For Judah's Lion burst his chains
and crushed the serpent's head,
and crushed the serpent's head;
Christ cries aloud through death's domains
to wake th'imprisoned dead,
to wake th'imprisoned dead,
to wake th'imprisoned dead.

3 Triumphant in his glory now -
to him all pow'r is giv'n,
to him all pow'r is giv'n;
to him in one communion bow
all saints in earth and heav'n,
all saints in earth and heav'n,
all saints in earth and heav'n.

4 All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory to the Son,
all glory to the Spirit be
while endless ages run,
while endless ages run,
while endless ages run. AMEN

God Communes With Us

Congregation:

Merciful Father, we lift our eyes from the visible elements even as we lift up our hearts to heaven itself, where Jesus Christ is, seated on the right hand of the Father, from where He shall come again to complete our redemption, in whom all the promises of God are fulfilled, and all spiritual blessings are to be found. In joy of heart, in brotherly union, in Christian love we come to partake of Your table, giving thanks for the great love which You have shown to us through Christ our Lord. AMEN

Thine Be the Glory

Hymn 274

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. Refrain

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. Refrain

God Commissions Us

John 11:25-26

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today Hymn 277, verse 1

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