

# Christ Congregational Church

*Upholding the evangelical and congregational tradition of the Reformed Faith since A.D. 2010*



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THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD | APRIL 5, A.D. 2026

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## **Call to Worship**

The entrance tower bell and carillon bells are rung.

## **Organ Prelude**

*Ode to Joy* — Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

*Minister.* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*Answer.* **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

✝ The congregation shall stand for the hymn.

## **Processional Hymn 184**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

Justin and Kayla Wood, *trumpets*; Shawn Schultz, *timpani*

✝ The congregation shall sit at the conclusion of the hymn.

## **Opening Prayer**

The Reverend Randall K. Green

✝ Then shall the Lector read the first lesson.

Hear the first lesson, written in John 20, vv. 1-18 (Pew Bible, p. 906).

**N**ow on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have

taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4 Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes. 11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

*Lector.* The light shines in the darkness;

*Answer.* **and the darkness has not overcome it!**

† The congregation shall stand for the the *Gloria Patri*, the lighting of the *Paschal Candle* and the hymn.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.**

### **Hymn 186**

*The Day of Resurrection!*

† The congregation shall be seated; then shall the Lector read the second lesson.

Hear the second lesson, written in Acts 10, vv. 34-43 (Pew Bible, p. 919).

**P**eter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36 As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), 37 you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living

and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*Lector.* The Word of the Lord.

*Answer.* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

#### *The Indestructible Jesus*

† The congregation shall stand at the conclusion of the sermon; then shall the Lector lead *The Nicene Creed*.

Let us confess the Holy Faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

† All shall remain standing for the singing of the *Doxology* and the hymn following.

**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.**

### **Anthem**

*Worthy Is the Lamb!*—Lloyd Larson (b. 1954)

You are worthy, O risen Lamb, to receive glory and honor! You created all things; by your will they were created! By your blood we have redemption. Praise the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world! Worthy is the Lamb to receive power and wisdom and strength! All glory, honor and praise! Worthy is the Lamb! You are worthy, O risen Lamb, to receive glory and honor! You created all things; by your will they were created! By your blood we have redemption. Praise the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world! Worthy is the Lamb! Worthy is the Lamb of God! (Adapted from Revelation 4:11; 5:12 and John 1:29)

## Responsive Prayer for Easter Day

*Lector.* O Christ, in your resurrection the heavens and the earth rejoice!

*Answer.* **Alleluia!**

*Lector.* By your resurrection you broke open the gates of hell and destroyed sin and death.

*Answer.* **Risen Lord, keep us victorious over sin.**

*Lector.* By your resurrection you confounded your enemies and filled your disciples with joy.

*Answer.* **Risen Lord, grant us joy in your service.**

*Lector.* By your resurrection you proclaimed good news to your disciples and brought salvation to the whole world.

*Answer.* **Risen Lord, direct our lives as your new creation.**

✠ Then shall the Lector conclude the prayers, ending with *The Lord's Prayer*.

**O**ur 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.

✠ The congregation shall stand for the recessional hymn.

### Recessional Hymn 190

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*

**A**nd now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forevermore.

*Answer.* **Amen.**

### Organ Postlude

*PAEAN-A Song of Triumph* — Soorjo Alexander William Langobard Oliphant Chuckerbutty (1884-1960)



**WORSHIP LEADERS** The Reverend Randall K. Green, *minister*; Mr. M. Todd Stracener, *lector*; *Christ Church Chorale*; Mr. David Lawson, *organist*; Mary Kathryn Stracener & Henry Springfield, *acolytes*.

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