

Sunday, April 17th

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Special Music: *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Rejoice and be glad:

People: This is the day that the Lord has made!

Leader: Rejoice and be glad:

People: Heaven and earth will never be the same!

Leader: Rejoice and be glad:

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

GIVE+Church

***Hymn # Christ the Lord is Risen Today!**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

You call us to hope, Savior God, but we despair. You call us to work for peace, but we doubt its power. You call us to community, but we judge and shun. Transform us, Holy One, by the joy of this Easter. Let us celebrate this day as a new beginning and a new life. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Unexpected News

***Affirmation of Faith:** The Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ,

Fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor

and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed

and blessing the children,

healing the sick

and binding up the brokenhearted,

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**eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.**

***Hymn # 243 – Be Not Afraid (x3)**

*Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!*

Prayers of the People

Special Music: *The Lord's Prayer*

***Hymn # 246 – Christ is Alive!**

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response: Hallelujah Chorus**

Postlude

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1 "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"
2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say:
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise to you by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
Death in vain for - bids him rise,
Je - sus died, our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

Originally printed as eleven four-line stanzas without alleluias, this Easter text was written during the first year following the author's life-changing conversion experience, yet it already shows his enduring emphasis on the theme of love. This lively Welsh tune sets it well.

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.