



The Garden Tomb - EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 4, 2021

8:00 AM Service

Easter Sunday: The Garden Tomb

Order of Service

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there. John 19:41-42

Invocation and Call to Worship

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Let us ever walk with Jesus!

C To see the depths of his love!

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness!

C To gaze upon the heights of his grace!

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy!

C We travel to the garden tomb.

P And we need not be afraid.

C For Christ is risen!

P He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

C Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where you guide!

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

SB #457



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to-day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which He endured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Δ 4 Sing we to our God a-bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um-phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Forgiveness

P Forgive me, O Lord, when my besetting sins entangle me and completely surround me.

C Who will rescue?

P Forgive me, Lord, when I am so eager to get, but so reluctant to give; so ready to receive your gifts, but so unwilling to bear the cross.

C Who will rescue me?

P Forgive me, merciful Father, when I avoid making any commitment to you; when I doubt that you really see my sin; when I disobey your commandments and am satisfied with only living for myself.

C Who will rescue me from this body?

P Forgive me, O God, when I am quick to find fault, but resentful when someone points out my faults; when I am so soon at play, but so late in prayer.

C Who will rescue me from this body of death?

P Father, forgive me when I rejoice in the temporary but think little of the eternal; when I am so fond of being idle but show little passion for helpful service.

C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

P Hear the good news! Jesus went to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. And Jesus lives for you! That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C I shall follow where you guide!

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God and Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord’s resurrection may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Job 19:23-27

23 “Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! 24 Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! 25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. 26 And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, 27 whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:15-18

15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-11

1 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord ‘descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has ‘risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and ‘behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.” 11 While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place.

Nicene Creed

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 His 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 Spirit 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 according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the

Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian 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.

Sermon Song

In Christ Alone

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

J = 60

VERSE

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3

light, my strength, — my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id -
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -
 world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious -
 pow'r of Christ — in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

6

Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought — and storm. What heights of
 -ness, scorned by the ones He came — to save. Till on that
 Day, up from the grave He rose — a - gain! And as He
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

9

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort -
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re -

13 E♭ A♭ B♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/G Fm⁷ A♭/B♭

-er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I
 sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I
 His and He is mine, bought with the pre-cious blood of
 -turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll

16 E♭ B♭m⁷ Fm⁷ E♭ E♭sus E♭

stand.
 live.
 Christ.
 stand!

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Sermon

Pastor Carey P. Elam

“The Garden Tomb”

Offering

Song

Instrumental

Prayer of the Church

P Onward in Christ’s footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father’s bidding. And so we pray: Living Lord Jesus, on the first day of the week, you rolled away the stone from the tomb and opened up life for all who believe. Roll away the stones of fear in our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Living Lord Jesus, replace our fear with bold faith—a faith that looks at challenges, pain, setbacks and heartaches and gives it all to you. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Living Lord Jesus, release us from the prisons of fear that we might be free. Set free all who live in bondage to anxiety, chained to addiction, and enslaved to evil. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Living Lord Jesus, you set your table before us, the remembrance of the Passover fulfilled and the anticipation of the future prepared for us; give us faith that we may receive this Holy Communion for our benefit and show forth love for you and for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Living Lord Jesus, you address the sick and the suffering with your grace to heal, relieve, and restore—give to all the sick, the wounded, the grieving, and the dying the full measure of your healing grace to support them in their need. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

- P Living Lord Jesus, you bid us to go forth confidently with Easter faith and a deathless and endless hallelujah; we will do just that, in the power of your Holy Spirit and as a witness to the world.
- C **Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Distribution/Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

Benediction

- P Jesus invites us to walk with him to the garden tomb, a place of great joy and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all our days to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C Let us ever walk with Jesus.

Song

He Lives

1. From heav - en — to earth our Sav - ior came. For

us on — a cross He bled and died. And from the cross to an emp - ty grave, He

rose to life, He rose to life. He lives, reign - ing — in pow - er!

He lives, name a - bove all names! Hal - le - lu - jah! Now, — for - ev - er,

hal - le - lu - jah, Christ — is ris - en! 2. All glo - ry — to Him up -

— on the throne, for - ev - er — ex - alt - ed, — and seat - ed high. The

Lamb of God, He has o - ver - come! He is a - live, He is a - live!

D.S. al Coda

- en! He is ris - en! — And on that day, — with

Him I'll rise; — for Christ, He lives in — me! — This

life I live, — no long - er mine; — for Christ, He lives in — me! —

— And (me,) — oh! — He lives,

reign - ing — in pow - er! He lives, name a - bove all names! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Now, — for - ev - er, hal - le - lu - jah,

Christ — is ris - en! Christ — is ris - en!

