

April 28, 2024 \cdot The Fifth Sunday of Easter



WE EXIST TO SEE JESUS ENCOUNTERED AND EMBRACED IN AUSTIN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us this afternoon for worship! If you are a new guest with us today, please say hello after the service. We'd love to meet you!



CONNECT

Resurrection is a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America launching in the fall of 2024 in northwest Austin. Our passion is the praise of God's glory among all peoples. Therefore, our mission is to make disciples and multiply churches in neighborhoods near and in nations far for the glory of God and the eternal enjoyment of his people in him. If you would like to be a part of this work, please visit resurrectionaustin. org/get-involved or scan the QR code to get started.

REFLECTION

The best news of the Christian gospel is that the supremely glorious Creator of the universe has acted in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection to remove every obstacle between us and himself so that we may find everlasting joy in seeing and savoring his infinite beauty. -John Piper

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME & PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor:	I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.	
All:	Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.	
Pastor:	The snares of death encompassed me;	
All:	the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.	
Pastor:	Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"	
All:	Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.	
Pastor:	For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;	
All:	I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.	

- Psalm 116:1-5, 8-9

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR



(Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873; Tune: Schleisiche Volkslieder, 1842)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. -1 John 1:8

CORPORATE CONFESSION

All: O most great, most just and gracious God; you are of purer eyes than to behold iniquity; but you have promised mercy through Jesus Christ to all that repent and believe in him.

> We confess that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. We have neglected and abused your holy worship. We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors. We have not sought first your kingdom. You have revealed your wonderful love to us in Christ and offered us pardon and salvation in him; but we have turned away. We have run into temptation; and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed.

Have mercy on us, most merciful Father! In your Son is our salvation, in your promises our hope. Take us for your children and give us the Spirit of your Son, and in the end receive us into your glory, through Jesus Christ our only Savior. Amen.

(from a 1661 prayer of Richard Baxter, The Savoy Liturgy)

SILENT CONFESSION

(PAUSE FOR A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- Pastor: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. -1 John 1:9
- All: Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. - Romans 15:5-7 Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(GREET ONE ANOTHER IN THE LORD.)

HYMN OF THE GOSPEL

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE



⁽Words: Charitie L. Bancroft, Music: Vikki Cook, CCLI license #2476739)

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES & CALL TO GIVING

(WE TAKE A MOMENT TO NOTE NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE.)

Our giving is an act of worship; it is a response of gratitude for God's generosity toward us and a sign of faith in God's future provision. You may give in person, online, or by mail (address on back cover).



PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

EZEKIEL 36:22-28

²² "Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the LORD GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the LORD GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Reader:This is the Word of the Lord.All:Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

(At this time, children in Kindergarten-2nd grade may go to Room 102 for a lesson and activity.)

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 4:1-18

¹ Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you.

¹³ Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, ¹⁴ knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵ For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"We Do Not Lose Heart" Rev. Adam Radcliff

RETURN OF CHILDREN

(At the conclusion of the sermon, feel free to pick up younger children. You may also wait to retrieve them, as childcare is provided for the duration of the service.)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant: Christian, what do you believe?

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell;

the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic Church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

(The Apostles' Creed)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

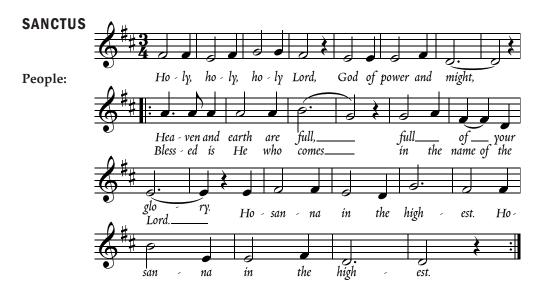
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and

everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name; evermore praising you, and singing,



(Music: Franz Schubert; adapt. David Lutes)

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Celebrant: The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. -1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Celebrant: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Celebrant: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, and drink, remembering that Christ's blood has been shed for you.

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER

Resurrection Presbyterian welcomes all baptized Christians who are members in good standing of a gospel-believing church to participate in the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper, also called communion or the Eucharist, is not just a ritual or memorial, but a fellowship with the risen Christ. Children who have been baptized and admitted to the table by the elders of this church or the leadership of another church are also welcome to the table.

If you're still investigating Christianity, not sure what you believe, or simply choose not to participate, you may either (1) remain in your seat or (2) come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing. Non-communing children are encouraged to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

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Partaking of the Elements

The usher will guide you to the serving lines. The outer circles of each tray contain wine. Grape juice is provided in the inner circle of each tray.

Gluten-free bread is available upon request. If you are highly gluten intolerant, please let your server know.

Prayers for Those Not Communing

We welcome you and invite you to use the prayers below during communion as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

Prayer for Those Searching: Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, and yet, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

ABIDE WITH ME



(Words by Henry Lyte; alt. by Justin Smith; Music by Justin Smith, CCLI license #2476739)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

BE THOU MY VISION



(Words: ancient Irish hymn, Music: traditional Irish melody, CCLI license #2476739)

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. - Numbers 6:24-26

DISMISSAL

- Pastor: Let us go out to serve our neighbors and the nations as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- All: Thanks be to God!

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

(Words: Thomas Ken, Music: Louis Bourgeois)

POSTLUDE

THE SEASON OF EASTERTIDE

As with Christmas, Easter is both a day and a season. 40 days of Lenten fasting and repentance are followed by 50 days of Easter celebration and thanksgiving concluding on the day of Pentecost (the fiftieth day). Easter cannot be done in a day. In the same way that Christ's incarnation at Christmas requires more than a day of reflection and celebration, Easter calls for an extended period to explore the depth and power of his resurrection.

THE COLOR OF EASTERTIDE

White and gold, the colors of Eastertide, symbolize the light of the world brought by the risen Christ that expands to fill the whole of God's creation. They also represent the exaltation of Christ, our King, who once was dead but now lives and reigns over us, his people - who with him are now the light of the world seeking his kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

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