



*So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.-*

*Matthew 28:8 (NRSV)*



*Burnand, Eugène, 1850-1921. Disciples John and Peter on their way to the tomb on Easter morning*

# Gathering as the Body of Christ

CENTERING SONG

“OH, HAPPY DAY”

ARR. BY CRYSTAL LEWIS

Oh happy day  
Oh happy day  
When Jesus washed  
My sins away  
(REPEAT)

He taught me how  
Taught me how  
To watch and pray  
Oh happy day  
When Jesus washed  
My sins away

And live rejoicing  
Live rejoicing everyday...

GREETING

PRESIDER

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

STUDENT MINISTER

Leader: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God. Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Leader: Sin and death shall reign no more.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Leader: Let this place resound with joy!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

\*OPENING HYMN

“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”

UMH 302 (v. 1-3)

\*CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SAT. ONLY [All are invited to turn toward the Baptismal Font.]

Risen Christ,  
The world despised and rejected you  
You responded with grace, humility, and welcome

The proud questioned your power, devised your death  
You responded with peace, forgiveness, and new life

**Forgive us, Merciful One**  
**Our arrogance, Our selfishness**  
**Our scheming, Our violence**  
**Forgive us, Merciful One**  
**Make us more like you**

[Time of silent confession]

Risen Christ,  
We claim your grace, your mercy, your forgiveness  
We claim your resurrection power:  
**Dying, you destroyed our death**  
**Rising, you restored our life.**  
**Alleluia. Amen.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a non-contact way that's comfortable to you and your neighbor.

*Peace be with you!*

***And also with you!***

*Let us share this peace with one another.*

## *Service of the Word*

**POEM [SAT. ONLY]**

**“THE COLORS OF NEW LIFE~A HAIKU CHAIN”**

**J. WHITE**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, roll away the stone and reveal to us the Word of Life. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**MATTHEW 28:1-10**

**NRSV**

**SERMON**

**REV. JENNIKA BORGER - APR 12**

**JIM CATRON - APR 15**

Spirit of life,  
 In this season of renewal, of life bursting into bloom or song,  
 remind us that we too have a hidden inner beauty,  
 reflecting the image of your creative power.

Spirit of Resurrection, remind us of the power of hope to triumph  
 over fear, the power of love to prevail over the horrors of hate,  
 the potential for peace to be victorious over hostility.

**Spirit of life, we pray for a courageous and joyous faith,  
 empowering us to participate with you in the creation of a new  
 time of life, in which love, justice, beauty and peace are  
 abundantly available to all. For this we pray. Amen.**

### *Service of the Table*

#### OFFERTORY SONG

#### INSTRUMENTAL

#### \*THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Presider Christ is risen.

**People Christ is risen, indeed.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

**People It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Glorious God, we give you thanks and praise, for all of creation sings,  
 Christ is risen from the dead! He has burst forth from the tomb to break  
 the tangles of despair and death. Love has come again. Therefore, we  
 praise you, joining our voices with the eternal chorus of rejoicing who  
 forever sing:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power, Giver of life, heaven and  
 earth declare your splendor. Praise, glory, and love are yours.**

All-embracing God, we give thanks for Jesus, the risen Lord of life, who  
 rose victorious from the grave and made the whole creation new. He  
 broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed, then  
 he poured out his life in death that we might live in love.

**Christ is risen from the dead. Love has come again.**

We thank you that on the night before he died for us our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, Drink this all of you: This is my blood poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

**Christ is risen from the dead. Love has come again.**

Recalling his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine, and our lives in thanks and praise. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit upon the whole earth, that we may proclaim good news to all the world and rise together as children of your new creation. Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God, where death and pain are no more and you dwell with us forever. Amen.

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**PRESIDER**

We have a few COVID related options for those who wish to partake. If you wish to receive from the ministers, take an empty eco-friendly cup from the stack on the aisle table and approach the minister, who will place a piece of bread in your open hand. All bread is gluten free.

Or you may take one of the sealed celebration cups with the wafer on top and juice beneath; hold them out to the minister for a blessing. A minister will pour grape juice into your cup. Eat, drink, and dispose of the cup in the waste baskets at the side aisles as you return to your seat.

**COMMUNION SONG**

**“YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART”**

**UMC 629**

# Going Forth as the Body of Christ

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**PRESIDER**

**Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for the nurturance of our whole selves with this bountiful and sustaining meal. In the strength and power given to us by our partaking of these your holy gifts, make us one with you, Holy Three, and one with each other, as we go forth to boldly serve you with our whole hearts, minds, and strength. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING SONG**

**“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”**

**UMH 302(v.4-6)**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**SENDING & POSTLUDE**

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**Cover Art:** Burnand, Eugène, 1850-1921. Disciples John and Peter on their way to the tomb on Easter morning, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

**Call to Worship:** Kimberly Bracken Long, ed., *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion*, 1st ed (Louisville, Ky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012), 134

**Prayers of Confession and Assurance:** Confession/assurance: Prayer of Confession and Pardon for Easter © 2022 Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia, [www.revlisad.com](http://www.revlisad.com)

**Poem:** J. White, “The Colors of New Life - A Haiku Chain,” allpoetry.com, n.d.,

<https://allpoetry.com/poem/15296031-The-Colors-of-New-Life-A-Haiku-Chain-by-J.-White>.

**Prayer for Illumination:** Kimberly Bracken Long, ed., *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion*, 1st ed (Louisville, Ky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012), 135.

**Prayers of the Community:** “Easter Prayer” by Kathleen Rolenz <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/meditation/easter>, accessed July 27, 2022.

**Communion Liturgy:** Kimberly Bracken Long, ed., *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion*, 1st ed (Louisville, Ky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012), 198-99

United Methodist Church (U.S.), ed., *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville, Tenn: United Methodist Pub. House, 1992), 59.

**Sending:**

**\*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.**

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## LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams, Advisor

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## THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

*To serve the universal church of our Creator.*

*To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.*

*To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.*