



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
April 9, 2023 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

Celebrating the Resurrection

Easter Sunday

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Lay Leader: Alice M.

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...



Easter Prayer: O God, we have difficulty understanding your plan, and the need for Christ to pass through the Gates of Death on this week that is called "holy." But today, we rejoice that our Lord has passed through the Gates of Life. Now, triumphant through Christ, you open the marvelous gates even to us – we, who are complicit with those who killed your precious Son. O let the gates swing wide, holy

One, that all might enter with thanksgiving, for in your city we shall behold no temple or shrine – but only YOU. May we walk in the light of your love and come into your presence with songs of praise this and every day. In the name of our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Bells

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Call to Worship

L: This **IS** the day of the Lord:

P: He breaks free of death's clutches, rolls away the stone, and even folds the grave clothes into a neat pile.

L: This is the day the **LORD** has made:

P: The day of sin's defeat, the day of resurrection, the first day of the new creation!

L: This is the **DAY!**

P: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise #123

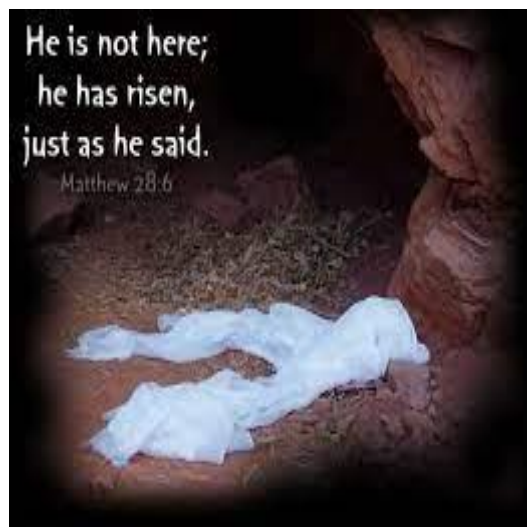
Jesus Christ is Risen Today

*1-Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

*2-Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!*

*3-But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation has procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!*

*4-Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*



Prayer of Confession

Lord, we are not worthy of the sacrifice you made for us. We stand amazed that you love us so much. We ask that you continue to forgive our wrongs and turn our hearts daily to you. Help us to recognize the freedom you have given us to choose, and help us to choose what is right and holy. Bless us, we pray. And now, holy God, we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and to seek your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: God, our Creator, gives us new life;

P: ***Christ, our Redeemer, prepares a Table for us;***

L: Holy Spirit, our Joy, calls us to service. This is the Good News!

P: ***The tomb is empty, sin is powerless, and death is defeated forever.***

L: On this very first day, and every day, we walk as God's people, forgiven and made whole.

P: ***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson*I Corinthians 15: 19-26**Christ Conquers the Grave*

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.



L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus**Bell Choir***Second Lesson***Luke 24: 1-12**The Resurrection of Christ*

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon*Our Story*

Responding to the Word

*Hymn #122

Thine Is the Glory

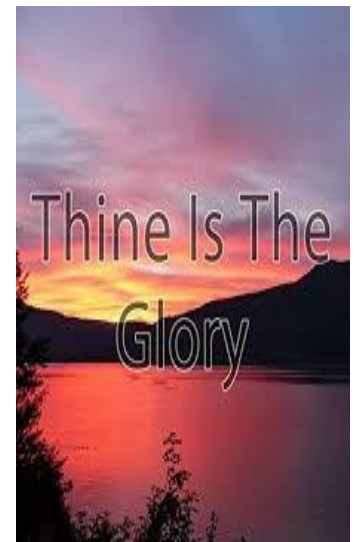
1-*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment, rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes, where thy body lay. R*

Refrain:

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

2-*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. R*

3-*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. R*



Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Cares Chorus:

*I cast all my cares upon you.
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime I don't know what to do,
I cast all my cares upon you.*

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

The Invitation *You are invited to place your offering in the basket in the back of the sanctuary.*

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we thank you for giving us gifts that we might share. May our hearts delight as we bring our gifts to you, asking that you bless these offerings that all might be used to glorify your name. Through your Son, the victorious Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation and Prayer of Consecration

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Elements

The Prayer of Thanksgiving



Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn #118

The Day of Resurrection!

*1-The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.*

*2- Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright,
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
And listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victory strain.*

*3- Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
The round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.*



* Blessing

L: May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God.

P: *In the days ahead, may we bask in the power of Christ's resurrection and share the Good News with everyone.*

L: May the promise and hope of Easter go with you. And may the blessings of Almighty God....

*Choral Benediction

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The Choir