

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021



#### **PRELUDE**

## Easter Glory

arr. James Curnow (ASCAP)

Chris Imhoff, trumpet; Michael Barker, organ

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Katherine Robinson

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

This is the good news – the grave is empty, Christ is risen!

## Hallelujah! We praise the risen Christ!

This is the good news – the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

## Hallelujah! We give thanks for Christ's light in the world!

This is the good news – once we were no people; now we are God's people!

## Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!

Let us worship our Easter God.

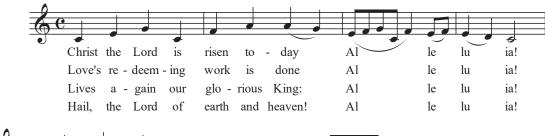
#### PRAYER OF PRAISE

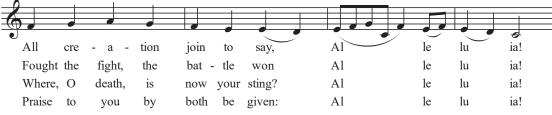
#### **HYMN**

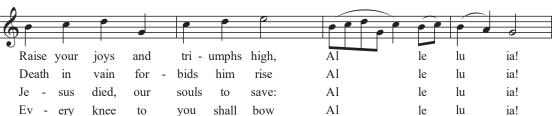
## Christ the Lord is Risen Today

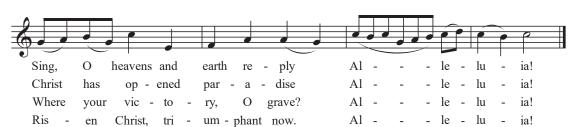
EASTER HYMN

Chris Imhoff, Wesley Owen, Drew Banzhoff, and Owen Gast; brass instrumentalists









#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our plans and priorities do not always make space for your interruptions.

Caught up in the busyness of our world,

we lack Sabbath time to ponder the meaning of Easter in our lives.

Have mercy on us, saving God.

After a year of Covid, we are accustomed to death and disappointment.

We are well acquainted with cynicism and disillusionment.

Have mercy on us, resurrecting God.

We are slow to believe your good news.

We are scarred by false hopes.

Grant us your peace.

We confess our lack of trust, our limited vision, our uneasy comfort with the miracle of your resurrection! We believe. Help our unbelief...

- Silent Prayers -

And yet you, O God, have created us for covenant keeping.

You have created us to see new life and resurrection all around us.

You have created us to live your Easter good news.

Forgive us.

Forgive us, and help us live as a people shaped by your voice, your hope, your reign. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

lu - jah,

hal - le

#### **RESPONSE TO PARDON**

# Halle, Halle, Halleluja

HALLE HALLE

Matt Begley, song leader

lu



jah!

#### FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:1-12

SERMON An Idle Tale?

HYMN The Strife is O'er VICTORY



#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for our church and nation, for the church universal, and for all of the world's people, indeed for all life, for all Creation, saying, God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

With joy, we pray for our church in Black Mountain as we gather, at a distance, united this morning at the empty tomb. Help us to see you, O God, in those we do not expect to encounter and give us courage to cross borders and seek you in the least among us. God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

With gratitude, we give you thanks for those who are seeking faith and desiring to walk in your ways, for the newly baptized, and for those who are lost and struggling with daily life and meaning. Guide them and keep them, open their eyes again and again to your presence, your wisdom, and your blessing. God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

With humility, we pray for this planet, our home that we love and need. Heal what we have scarred and broken; renew in all people, a newfound reverence for ways to live in harmony with all forms of life, in all its interconnected divine symmetry. Help us in finding your awe and wonder that your creation reflects. God in you mercy, hear our prayer.

With compassion, wipe away the tears of all who weep. Give the spiritual inspiration and the ethical will to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort those who are in trouble. Inspire us to live for our brothers and sisters of all places -near and far. God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We remember those who saw our risen Lord and witnessed to his resurrection so that we all might seek and find resurrection and commit to bring transformation to this world through our faith and obedience to your unconditional love. May we be inspired to live lives of Hosanna, and share words of Alleluia, as we live out our days. God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Passing from the darkened midday sun to the light of dawn, from ways of bondage and oppression to freedom and justice, from death to life, we commend to you, gracious and ever-living God, all for whom we pray, **Amen**.

#### **CALL TO OFFERING**

## Offertory

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Arr. ST Kimbrough

The offerings we give acknowledge that everything we have is a gift from God. Thank you for participating in the ministry and mission work of BMPC. You can find instructions for all ways of giving online <a href="here">here</a>

You can use your phone to text the word "BMPC" to phone number 73256:

You will receive a link that will direct you to our online giving form where you can enter in the amount you would like to give, choose your fund, enter your payment information, and give.

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** 

Paraphrase on "Thine Is the Glory"

Alexander Guilmant



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#### Connect with us on our website

Visitors: let us know of your interest or questions about BMPC.

Members: share prayer requests, pastoral concerns, or updated contact information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

Jim Davies at home with Helen under hospice care

Paul & Diane Ginther received great news about their three-month-old granddaughter Charlie – her MRI showed no brain tissue in the small mass on her head so she will receive low risk skull/scalp surgery this summer

Please hold **Katherine Holman and her extended family** in prayer following the death of her sister-in-law, Marie Holman Anderson, for they mourn, even as they celebrate Marie's life and heavenly homecoming

Barbara Jenkins, on IV fluids and pain meds

Carolyn Johnson recovering from knee surgery

Bob McMurray had knee replacement surgery, prayers for a speedy recovery

Our PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: John McCall in Taiwan;
Dan & Elizabeth Turk in Madagascar. Outreach Foundation: Frank Dimmock
Seminary Student: Emily Beaver, Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia
Our partner Presbytery and partner church, Ebenezer, in Guatemala
The situation in Guatemala is very difficult with COVID-19. It seems that our Ebenezer church members are healthy, but many are not able to work and it is not easy to get food.

Please remember in prayer these people with ongoing concerns:

Martha Jean Alvis, Nada Barnett, Daisy Buckner, Chad Carlton, Jane Collins, Doris Hogle, Becky Hughes, Barbara Jenkins, Mary McElrath, Margaret Rada, Betty Rand, Penny Sampson, Renee & Charles Sandy, Callie Shaffer, Richard Speegle, Paul Willison, Jack Wynn



## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and gracious God,
through the rising of your Son from the grave, you broke the power of death.

Meet us today as you met the women at the tomb.

Then, in the midst of our earthly worries, may we have the grace to know and live in new ways.

Give us conviction that we might live with strength and courage. Kindle in us your faith and hope and love, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer composed by Mary Brueggemann

# Our Church's Vision Embodying the Love of Christ

Inspiring through Worship and Faith Formation • Nurturing through Fellowship Equipping to Serve • Welcoming to All

# Session

Mike Ballard, clerk

Class of 2021 Liesl Case Dave Johnson Deb Mullis Bill Straughan Class of 2022 Ellen Begley Austin Brown Daniel Wiggs Cheryl Wilson Class of 2023
Alison Banzhoff
Gay Ferguson
Jonathan Kadau
Margo Smith
Tommy Wilkinson

# **Deacons**

Class of 2021
Yvette Ballard
Carey Jo Elam
Kiersten & Weston Hall
Franklin Harris
Cindy & Ed McDaniel
Cathy & Neil McMillan
Gayle & Peter Mudge
Kay & Mike Salmon
Margaret Waterstradt

Class of 2022
Susan & Ernie Banzhoff
Kay & Jim Layman
Susan McElrath
Mary & Don McMahill
Martha Jane Petersen
Delores Spielman
Janine & Russ Spiller

Class of 2023
Karen Austin
Alex Carver & Joe Carreiro
Edie & Joe Covert
Margaret Fouse & Craig Cooley
Diane Ginther
Ann Herring
Jeannie Maidment
Margie Stansell

# **Ministers: Every Member Of The Congregation**

Mary Katherine Robinson	Pastor/Head of Staff
David Carter Florence	Associate Pastor for Congregational Faith Formation
Bob Tuttle	Parish Associate
Michael Barker	Director of Music and Worship Arts
Alice Patton	Director of Preschool Ministry
Sam Webber	Director of Operations and Youth Ministry
Brittany Williams	Director of Congregational LIfe and Children's Ministry
Jackie Kerr	Director of Communications



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