

A Guideline for Sunday Home Worship Service

Laurel Hill Church

April 9 / Easter Sunday

Opening Prayer

Holy and Living God, like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light, open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another, and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Opening Hymn – “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” (UMH 302)

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!
6. King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia! Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia! Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

Common Prayer

Throughout our Lenten journey, we have walked the path with you, Lord. Now you bring us to the empty tomb and to the joyous news of your resurrection. You conquered death and sin and brought us to new life. We praise your holy name and sing our unending song of hope and thanksgiving.

Lord, you call us to be bearers of the light and hope to areas in which darkness still stands. Keep us open to the needs and hearts of other people. Help us not to be so quick to condemn as we are to love. Help us to reach out in kindness and compassion whenever and wherever we can for healing and hope. Remind us again of the many ways in which you have and continue to bless our lives. For we ask these things in the name of the Resurrected Christ. Amen.

Scripture Lesson: John 20:1-18

Sermon: “Resurrection Faith – from Despair to Delight” – Rev. Hyunho Lee

Hymn of Response: “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” (UMH 312)

1. Hail the day that see him rise, Alleluia! To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!

Christ, awhile mortals given, Alleluia! Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia! Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!
3. See! The heaven its Lord receive, Alleluia! Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Through returning to his throne, Alleluia! Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!
4. See! He lifts his hands above, Alleluia! See! He shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! His gracious lips bestow, Alleluia! Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

Tithes and Offerings

Prayer: “Generous God, we offer these gifts as our testimony to your glory and as our commitment as your disciples. Bless our gifts to your work in the world and to your reign here on earth. Through your blessing of our gifts, may death be destroyed and hope fill all of creation. Amen.”

Hymn of Commitment – “He Lives” (UMH 310)

1. I serve a risen Savior, he’s in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
And just the time I need him, he’s always near.
Refrain: He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last. (Refrain)

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujas to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind. (Refrain)

Closing Prayer – The Lord’s Prayer

■ ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 9, 2023 ■

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of Almighty God, His Only Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. The flowers are given in honor of Glenda Gibbs from her family in honor of her 90th birthday today.

WE WILL COLLECT A SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY to support people in Turkey and Syria as they recover from multiple earthquakes.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone who provided such a delicious breakfast this morning following Sunrise Service. It was wonderful to be together again to celebrate this special day.

WE WILL NOT HAVE CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL this morning. We hope you will enjoy sharing the beautiful cantata with them today. Thank you.

THANK YOU to our Chancel Choir, Pam Wilson, and Kirby Miller for the beautiful Eater Cantata presented this morning. Your many hours of rehearsals blessed us all with such beautiful music.

LADIES OF LAUREL HILL please remember to bring items for the Birthday Bags when we meet on Tuesday, April 11th at 10:30 A.M. Hope you can join us!

OUR CHURCH CONFERENCE is on Sunday, April 16th immediately following worship when we will vote of our affiliation. Please continue to pray for God's will.

VARINA HIGH SCHOOL is having a denim drive. If you have any old denim clothing that you would like to donate you may bring it to church by April 20th. One of the Weekday teachers will deliver it to the school.