



Sunday, March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20:1-18 (NIV)

- CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY -

Greeters: Darla & Jack McKim, Joanna Roth, Kristen & Matthew Bransby, Kim Buzzard, Linda Keener

Ushers: Michel Gibeault, Coleman Harris, Sara Shank, John Wolfe, David & Marion Drain, Phil Smith, Randy Heller

The white rose recognizes and bears witness to the life and memory of Marilyn Krah

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

*Processional Hymn #123

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" down the pew.

At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.

Choral Introit

"Christ Is Risen!"

by Adelia Cubbon

*Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed!

Leader: Let all the earth rejoice!

People: Let all heaven resound in praise.

Leader: Alleluia!

All: Alleluia!

*Hymn #188

"The Day of Resurrection"

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession

Will Massey

Gracious God, we worship our risen Savior, but we find ourselves weighed down by many things. We would prefer an easy faith, one that does not require us to identify the many ways that our thoughts, words, and actions betray your love. But faith is never easy. It requires our very souls. Forgive us when we choose to remain captive to fear and doubt. Remind us that Jesus gave His very life so that we might draw near to You. Deepen our faith, and enable us by Christ's resurrection power to live no longer for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose again on our behalf, through Christ our Lord, Amen

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Will Massey

Leader: There's no night so dark the light of Christ cannot penetrate it. There's no pit so deep the Lord cannot descend all the way to lift us out of it. There's no obstacle so high that Jesus is not higher still and takes us over it. There's no place where we can wander that's too far away for the King of the universe to seek us, find us, and bring us safely home. With Christ, in Christ, and through Christ there's always hope –for if the grave cannot hold him and death cannot defeat Him, nothing is impossible for Him. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Will Massey

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* Gloria Patri 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*At this time, children through 4th grade are invited to attend Sunday School. Teachers are stationed at the main doors of the sanctuary and will walk the children to the children's classrooms in the Narthex.
Parents/Guardians may pick up their children after the service in the classroom.*

Presentation of Offering

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Offertory

"Praise My Soul The King of Heaven"

arr. M. Hayes

*Doxology 592 (inclusive)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture Readings

John 20:1-18

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Message

"Seen, Known, Loved"

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

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;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn #122

"Thine Is The Glory"

* Charge and Benediction

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

* Congregational Response

"Hallelujah Chorus"
(from *Messiah*)

by G.F. Handel

Please be seated for the organ postlude

Organ Postlude

"Toccata"

by Charles-Marie Widor

***PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST

A/V: MARK ANDERSON AND KEN OSBORNE

Please be advised that services are recorded and you may be incidentally captured on video as part of the recording of the service. The back of the sanctuary is out of the range of the camera.

A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal.

FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell Phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Video Recordings of the service can be found on the Highland website at www.HighlandPC.org

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.