



**The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, April 31st, 2024
Easter Sunrise Service, 6:00am**

Order of Worship

GREETING

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME

SONG

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the Word! Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 118*

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord for God is good.

People: God's steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: The Lord is my strength and song.

People: God has become my salvation.

Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness;

People: That I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected;

People: Has become the cornerstone.

Leader: This is the Lord's doing.

People: It is marvelous in our eyes.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

GATHERING PRAYER *unison*

Leader: Please join me in the gathering prayer.

People: Dear God, thank you for a day of joy and gladness. Gather us together in the spirit of all your saints, past, present and to come. We are grateful to share in the gifts of our Easter faith. Bless us to see your everlasting love in all the places we go. May the signs of new life rise before us and inspire great faithfulness in us through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

HOLY SCRIPTURE Mark 16:1-8 “Jesus Has Been Raised”

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was

crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So, they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

EASTER PRAYERS

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray. Dear God;

People: Thank you for the rising light.

Leader: Thank you for this Easter morning.

People: How beautiful is all your creation!

Leader: How wonderful are all your creatures!

People: We pray for all in need of love today.

Leader: We pray for all the places in need of peace.

People: Make us new through your Spirit.

Leader: Show us the way to our new life.

People: Let us walk in your light always.

Leader: May each flower sing a song of celebration.

People: May Easter hope fill every heart. Amen.

PLACING FLOWERS ON THE CROSS

Music is played while all may place flowers on the Cross

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Please join me in the Lord's prayer.

People: 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.

SONG

The Day of Resurrection!

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

Now let the heavens be joyful let earth her song begin
The world resound in triumph and all that is therein
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend
For Christ the Lord is risen our joy that has no end

PARTING BLESSING

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up a loving countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Happy Easter!



Senior Pastor: Reverend Kenneth C. Landin
Organist & Music Director: Justin Kisch
Bells Director: Martha Goodman
Church Sextons: Bob and Sandy Cummings
Church Office Administrator: AnnMarie Helmar

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