

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Dennis Lesher

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Responding to God's bountiful gifts to us in Christ, we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.

—based on 2 Corinthians 9:6, 8, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Dennis Lesher

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.
Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Dennis Lesher

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”
“Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?”
The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

—1 Corinthians 15:54-57, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

 **Gloria Patri**

*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.
A-men, A-men.*

 **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation

In the name and in the spirit of Jesus, we bring our gifts to you,
O God. Help us to give with them a ready mind, a willing spirit,
and a joyful heart. **Amen.**

Offering

Offertory *Risen*
(String Quartet, Flute, Piano)

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

Living God, you have given us so much in Jesus Christ:
hope, joy, and peace. Above all, you have given us life!
What can we give in return? If the whole world were ours, it
would not be enough. What little we have we humbly offer to
you. Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto
you. **Amen.**

Praise Song *Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death*

Verse 1

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

Chorus

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Verse 2

*What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ*

Verse 3

*Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore*

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18, 30-31

20 On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark. She saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she went running to Simon Peter and to the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said to them, "They've taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him!"

³ At that, Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first. ⁵ Stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then, following him, Simon Peter also came. He entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. ⁷ The wrapping that had been on his head was not lying with the linen cloths but was folded up in a separate place by itself. ⁸ The other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, then also went in, saw, and believed. ⁹ For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

¹¹ But Mary stood outside the tomb, crying. As she was crying, she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² She saw two angels in white sitting where Jesus's body had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"Because they've taken away my Lord," she told them, "and I don't know where they've put him."

¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus. ¹⁵ "Woman," Jesus said to her, "why are you crying? Who is it that you're seeking?"

Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you've carried him away, tell me where you've put him, and I will take him away."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Turning around, she said to him in Aramaic, "*Rabboni!*"—which means "Teacher."

¹⁷ "Don't cling to me," Jesus told her, "since I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."


¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon

"Believe and Have Life in His Name"

Rev. Tim Latham

 **Hymn of Response 217** *Christ, the Lord is Risen Today*

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** *(In Unison)*

This is the good news that we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

**Christ died for our sins, was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God.
Amen.**

—based on 1 Corinthians 15:3-7; Colossians 1:15-20

Prayers of the People

Leader: So we pray,

All: O Lord of Glory

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

 **Commission Hymn 228** *Rejoice, The Lord is King!*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude** *Christ Arose* *String Quartet*