



The Cost of New Creation March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday



# MEDITATION

You don't live in a mechanistic world ruled by necessity; you don't live in a random world ruled by chance; you live in a world ruled by the God of Exodus and Easter. He will do things in you that neither you nor your friends would have supposed possible.

- Eugene H. Peterson, Five Smooth Stones

Jesus was the only One that ever raised the dead and He shouldn't have done it. He thrown everything off balance. If He did what he said, then it's nothing for you to do but throw away everything and follow Him, and if He didn't, then it's nothing for you to do but enjoy the few minutes you got left the best way you can.

- Flannery O'Connor, "A Good Man Is Hard To Find"

He was baptized a man - but he remitted sins as God. . . . He was tempted as Man, but he conquered as God... He hungered - but he fed thousands... He thirsted - but he cried, if any man thirst let him come unto me and drink ... He was wearied, but he is the rest of them that are weary and heavy-laden. He was heavy with sleep, but he walked lightly over the sea.... He pays tribute, bit it is out of a fish. yea, he is the king of those who demanded it... He prays, but he hears prayer. He weeps, but he causes tears to cease. He asks where Lazarus was laid, for he was Man; but he raises Lazarus, for he was God. He is sold, and very cheap, for it is only for thirty pieces of silver; but he redeems the world, and that at a great price, for the price was his blood. As a sheep he is led to the slaughter, but he is the shepherd of Israel, and now of the whole world also.... As a lamb he is silent, yet he is the Word.... He is bruised and wounded, but he heals every disease and every infirmity. He is lifted up and nailed to the tree, but by the tree of life he restores... He lays down his life, but he has power to take it again... He dies, but he gives life, and by his death he destroys - Gregory Nazieanzen, Third Theological Oration (330-389) death.

Let us not mock God with metaphor, analogy, sidestepping transcendence; making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded credulity of earlier ages: let us walk through the door. The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché, not a stone in a story, but the vast rock of materiality that in the slow grinding of time will eclipse for each of us the wide light of day.

- John Updike, from "Seven Stanzas at Easter"

# WELCOME

Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.

**WHAT is the Gospel?** It is the announcement (literally "good news") that Jesus' cross and resurrection were the beginning of salvation for the entire cosmos and will be completed when he returns. God is restoring the peace (shalom) of his creation through the work of Christ and is renewing people, families, neighborhoods, cities and nations, as people trust and follow him.

**HOW do we celebrate the Gospel?** Through faithful proclamation and obedient demonstration. Weekly worship services are the core opportunity for everyone to know how God is setting things right and to thank him publicly for it. This public celebration spills over to the rest of our lives where we serve our neighbors as Christ has served us.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor. If you would like to indicate your presence to us, please fill out the form on the back page of this bulletin and place it in the offering box in the back of the sanctuary or give it to a greeter.

Please note that our services are live-streamed.



# LITURGY OF PREPARATION

# Words of Welcome Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead. God has claimed us as his own. He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed.Alleluia!

based on 1 Peter 1:3-5

## Gathering Hymn - Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

# Greeting

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

#### Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

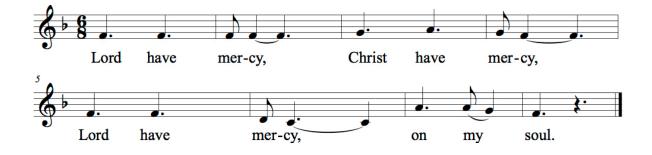
## Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

## Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

Confession Hymn- Lord, Have Mercy



# **Confession of Sin**

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

# Words of Forgiveness & Peace

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Colossians 2:13-15

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

# **Passing of the Peace**

An invitation is extended for the congregation to share a sign of peace with one another

## **Hymns of Praise and Adoration**

#### Stick Drama Presentation - Praise The King

#### The Anthem

Hallelujah, you have won the victory Hallelujah, you have won it all for me

Death could not hold you down You are the risen King You're seated in majesty And you are the risen King

#### In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light, my strength, my song This cornerstone, this solid ground Firm through the fiercest drought and storm What heights of love, what depths of peace When fears are stilled, when strivings cease My comforter, my all in all Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh Fullness of God in helpless babe This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save Till on that cross as Jesus died The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death This is the pow'r of Christ in me From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand Till He returns or calls me home Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

#### King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope without light Till from Heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word From a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt

> Praise the Father, praise the Son Praise the Spirit three in one God of Glory, majesty Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming, and to reconcile the lost To redeem the whole creation, you did not despise the cross For even in Your suffering, you saw to the other side Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died

> Praise the Father, praise the Son Praise the Spirit three in one God of Glory, majesty Praise forever to the King of kings

And the morning that You rose, all of heaven held its breath Till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe For the souls of all who'd come, to the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame Now this Gospel truth of old, shall not kneel shall not faint By His blood and in His Name, in His freedom I am free For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me

> Praise the Father, praise the Son Praise the Spirit three in one God of Glory, majesty Praise forever to the King of kings



# LITURGY OF THE WORD

# **Living Our Faith**

# **Psalm Reading**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." The Lord is my strength and my song; 14 he has become my salvation. <sup>15</sup> Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, 16 the right hand of the Lord exalts, the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!" 17 I shall not die, but I shall live. and recount the deeds of the Lord. The Lord has disciplined me severely, 18 but he has not given me over to death. 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. 23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. <sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## 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. Amen. Amen.

# **Old Testament Reading**

#### Genesis 3:20-24

<sup>20</sup> The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup> And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

<sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" <sup>23</sup> therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

The Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

# **New Testament Reading**

I Corinthians 15:20-27

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup> For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet."

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.** 

# **Gospel Reading**

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. **Alleluia!** He has defeated the powers of death. **Alleluia!** Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing. **Alleluia!** He has the words of eternal life. **Alleluia!** 

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: Glory to you, O Lord!

#### Luke 23:5-24:12

<sup>50</sup> Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, <sup>51</sup> who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. <sup>52</sup> This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>53</sup> Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. <sup>54</sup> It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. <sup>55</sup> The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. <sup>56</sup> Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." <sup>8</sup> And they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, <sup>11</sup> but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ!

## Sermon

Rev. Peter Rowan - The Cost of New Creation

# Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

# **Offering of Prayers of the People**

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered his people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Let us lift our voices and pray, Risen Lord,

## Hear our Prayer.

Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings he showers upon us: For our lives and for those whom we love, For the beauty of this home God has created for us, For our families and our friendships, Let us give thanks to the God of Life. Risen Lord, **Hear our Prayer.**  Let us pray for the Church, that it may carry forward the redemptive works of God: For our Pastor and our missionaries.

For the many lay people who serve the church,

And serve the world through the church.

For those gather here in worship and prayer.

Risen Lord,

#### Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, and that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up. Risen Lord,

#### Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, those who struggle: and who have died:

That the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, And that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.

Risen Lord,

#### Hear our Prayer.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

# **Offering of Gifts**

# Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen



# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

# The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

# Invitation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

# It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

# **Praise God for His Mighty Acts**

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious: and his mercy endures for ever. He has loved us from all eternity: for his mercy endures for ever. And remembered us when we were in trouble: for his mercy endures for ever. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: for his mercy endures for ever. He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man: for his mercy endures for ever. By his cross and passion he has redeemed the world: for his mercy endures for ever. And has washed us from our sins in his own blood: for his mercy endures for ever. On the third day he rose again:

for his mercy endures for ever. And has given us the victory: for his mercy endures for ever. He ascended into heaven: for his mercy endures for ever. And opened wide for us the everlasting doors: for his mercy endures for ever. He is seated at the right hand of the Father: for his mercy endures for ever. And ever lives to make intercession for us: for his mercy endures for ever. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

#### Sanctus

Holy, holy holy Lord God of power and might Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest Blessed in he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament. Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ Will Come Again!

# **Calling on the Holy Spirit**

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us:

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Invitation to the Table

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him by faith, with thanksgiving.

# **Sharing Holy Communion**

Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free. Closing Prayer

# **Closing Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for your resurrection overturns our expectations of life and even your closest friends could not see truth before them. As the angel helped them to grasp your triumph and overcome their fear, so help us to see your hand at work through the events that overtake us. As we have taken and eaten of your broken body and and taken and drank of you shed blood, may these holy mysteries nourish in faith as we await for resurrection of the New Heavens and the New Earth when we will dine with you at the great marriage supper of the Lamb. To you, Lord Jesus, whose ways astonish beyond our imagining, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

# Benediction

As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. **Amen.** And may that same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and always. **Amen** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. **Amen.** And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. **Amen.** 

# **Closing Hymn - Christ Arose**

Low in the grave He lay Jesus, my Savior Waiting the coming day Jesus, my Lord

Vainly they watch His bed Jesus, my Savior Vainly they seal the dead Jesus, my Lord

Up from the grave He arose With a mighty triumph o'er His foes He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot keep his prey Jesus, my Savior He tore the bars away Jesus, my Lord

Up from the grave He arose With a mighty triumph o'er His foes He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose! He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

# Dismissal

He is not here. He is risen. Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.** 



# **ATTRIBUTIONS**

#### Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Words by Charles Wesley, 1739 Music: EASTER HYMN, 1708

#### Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie eleison

#### **Praise The King**

Words and Music by Corey Voss, Dustin Smith, Michael Bryce Jr., and Michael Farren © 2014 Centricity Music Publishing; CentricSongs; Integrity's Alleluia! Music; Integrity's Praise! Music Used by Permission

#### The Anthem

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#### In Christ Alone

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#### **King of Kings**

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#### Sanctus

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#### **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Words by Matthew Bridges, 1851, alterer Godfrey Thring, 1871 Music by George Elvey, 1868

#### **Christ Arose**

Words and Music by Robert Lowry (1874)

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# Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

\_\_\_\_\_ Visitor

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Attendee

\_\_\_\_ Member

Name(s):

Address (please include city and zip):

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Notes:

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