

Easter Sunday Service for Family Worship

Encourage all ages to participate through songs, Scripture reading, confession, and prayer.

(Gather in a dark or dimly lit room that has been prepared for worship.)

Leader: We remember that Jesus was crucified on a cross for our sins, and His body was laid in a tomb. Then a large stone was rolled against the entrance of the tomb, and the tomb was sealed.

(Allow the room to fill with light while the Scripture from Matthew is read and children are guided in re-enacting the story, experiencing the joy and wonder of Resurrection Day.)

Matthew 28:1-10

¹ Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. ² And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. ³ And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴ The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men. ⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. ⁷ Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you."

⁸ And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me."

Hymn – "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (AH #104)

1. 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!

2. 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!
3. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

Confession of Sin (AH p.49, #11)

Dear Heavenly Father, we bow before You to confess that we have sinned against You in our words, actions, and our thoughts. We come to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your great mercy. We come to You in the merits of Jesus Christ, not our own. Look not upon our sins, or our iniquity, but wash us in the blood of Jesus Christ so that we may be clean before You. This we pray in His Name, Amen.

Declaration of Grace (AH p.51, #4)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name. He gives power to become sons of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes, and is baptized, shall be saved. Grant this, LORD, to us all.

Hymn – "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word" (AH #107)

He is arisen! Glorious word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord;
The gates of heav'n are open.
My Jesus died triumphantly, And Satan's arrows broken lie,
Destroyed hell's direst weapon.
Oh hear what cheer! Christ victorious riseth glorious, life He giveth—
He was dead, but see, He liveth!

Confession of Faith – The Apostles' Creed (AH p.4)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And 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, dead and buried; He descended into Hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer (*thanksgiving for Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, His resurrection, and the promise of eternal life for all who believe; petition for national leaders, congregations, family, friends, neighbors*)

Offering (*share in supporting your congregation and families in need*)

Hymn – “Thine Is the Glory” (AH #98)

1. Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Refrain:
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.
2. Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
Let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [*Refrain*]
3. No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. [*Refrain*]

Sermon (*have a family member share a devotional message or listen to a sermon online – see www.aflc.org/listen-online*)

Proclamation

Leader: Jesus is risen!
All: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Jesus is risen!
All: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Jesus is risen!
All: He is risen indeed!

Hymn – “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (AH #97)

1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.
2. He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above,
He lives my hungry soul to feed,
He lives to help in time of need.
3. He lives to grant me rich supply,
He lives to guide me with His eye,
He lives to comfort me when faint,
He live to hear my soul's complaint.
4. He lives to silence all my fears,
He lives to wipe away my tears,
He lives to calm my troubled heart,
He lives all blessings to impart.
5. He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
O the sweet joy this sentence gives;
I know that my Redeemer lives!

The Lord's Prayer (AH p.5)

Closing Prayer (*spoken together in unison, AH p.42*)

O God, who for our redemption gave Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross, and by His glorious Resurrection has delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant us to die daily unto sin, that we may evermore live with Him who died and rose again for us; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

Threefold Amen/Doxology – Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

*This service uses resources from the Ambassador Hymnal indicated as “AH.”
Downloadable music for hymns is provided.*