

WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
April 5, 2026 | 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

The sound of bells summons us to gather for worship.

Preparation for Worship

Brightness of God's glory and exact image of God's person, whom death could not conquer nor the tomb imprison, as you have shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in the Spirit. Let no shadow of the grave terrify us and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days, as the first and the last, the Living One, our immortal Savior and Lord. Amen.

Introit Invokation and Alleluia

George Walker
Randall Thompson

Call to Worship

Love has broken through! **Love has broken through!**
The stone is rolled away! **The stone is rolled away!**
Christ is risen! **Christ is risen!**
Christ is risen indeed! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Cate Church Norman
Vivienne Watters (9:30)

*Prayer of the Day

*Hymn 232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

*Confession and Pardon

Even on Easter morning,
when joy meets us like the rising sun,
we carry sorrow and fear.

Trusting in the One who makes all things new,
let us pray.

**God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.
From the threat of death you have rescued us through his resurrection.
Forgive our errant ways. Cleanse our sin and, through the love of Jesus,
reclaim our hearts. Renew our lives for service, joy, and celebration.
Increase in our minds and souls the risen life we share with Christ,
and help us to grow as your people
toward the fullness of eternal life with you,
This we ask through Christ, our risen Lord.**

Silent prayers



Morning Has Broken © 2016
James Fissel | Eyekons

* Asterisks invite us
to rise in body or spirit.

Words in bold are for
everyone to say or sing.

An excerpt from George Walker's
dramatic *Invokation* (from *Three
Pieces* for organ) announces
worship—an unfinished fanfare
that leads to Randall Thompson's
Alleluia.

Just as the wounded
Jesus rises to new life,
this spiritual promises
wholeness and healing.

choir, then all:

Negro spiritual (Hymn 792)

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

This is the Easter truth:
love is stronger than death.
Christ is risen, and we rise with him.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed.
Thanks be to God.

*Hymn 587 Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Sharing of the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Jim Ferry

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Reading Isaiah 25:6-9

pew Bible p. 613

all singing refrain in English or Spanish

This is the day; this is the day;
 ¡Es - te es el dí - a, es - te es el dí - a,
 this is the day that God has made!
 es - te es el dí - a que hi - zo Dios!

This refrain by Pablo Sosa derives from the northern Argentinian folk dance called *chaya*, associated with abundance and fruit gathering. Its exuberance matches the rejoicing found in the psalm text.

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
 God's mercy endures forever.
Let God's people now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."
 The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
Shouts of rejoicing and salvation
echo in the tents of the righteous:

refrain

"The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
 The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"
I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.
 The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

refrain

"This is the gate of the LORD;
 here the righteous may enter."
I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.
 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

refrain

Reading Colossians 3:1-4

pew Bible p. 190

Anthem

William Billings, composer

The Lord is risen indeed: Hallelujah!
 Now is Christ risen from the dead
 and become the first fruits of them that slept.
 Hallelujah!
 And did he rise? Hear it, ye nations! Hear it, O ye dead!
 He rose; he burst the bars of death and triumphed o'er the grave.
 Then I rose.
 Then first humanity triumphant passed the crystal ports of light
 and seized eternal youth.
 Hail, all immortal, hail! Heaven all-lavish of strange gifts to us!
 Thine's all the glory, ours the boundless bliss.

18th-century American composer William Billings composed this anthem. Just as gospel Easter stories show us unadorned, ordinary people in the face of miraculous news, the anthem has an energy that is plain, rugged, and ecstatic.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 231 Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

TRANSFORMATION

This extraordinary Easter text, by John L. Bell, is found in our hymnal, though to a different tune. Today, we sing the tune Bell originally composed for it—in equal parts poignant, beautiful, and stirring.



1 Christ has ris - en while earth slum bers, Christ has ris - en where hope died,
2 Christ has ris - en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
3 Christ has ris - en and for - ev - er lives to chal - lenge and to change



as he said and as he pro-mised, as we doubt - ed and de - nied.
Christ has ris - en for the wom - en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing, let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pre - sent, mak-ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru - mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
He whose word in-spired cre - a - tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
ev - i - dence of trans - for - ma - tion in which God is known and seen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Lee Hunter

**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.**

Offering The Rejoicing

G.F. Handel, composer

One Great Hour of Sharing Easter Offering (see back for QR code)

*Hymn 609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 547 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

*Benediction

*Chiming of the Trinity

*Postlude Finale (Symphony No. 1)

Louis Vierne, composer

This sending hymn imagines God's voice speaking to us in blessing, promises, love, and power. This Sunday marks the last service here in the sanctuary before renovation begins tomorrow—this hymn's language touches that sense of sacred space: *here you heard my dear Son's story, here my Spirit's power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.*

EASTER DECORATIONS

Easter decorations are given to the glory of God
by the following in honor or memory of friends and loved ones:

IN MEMORY OF

Virginia Payne

by Diane and Mike Payne

Celeste and Robert Ruark

by Nancy Ruark

**Thomas Newby and Bernice
and Roger Henshaw**

by Charlotte Newby

**Jane and Vic Bell and Mary Grady
and Calvin Koonce**

by Mary Grady and Vic Bell

**H. William Vassey
and Lyric Isabella Woods**

by Carol Vassey

Larry Durgin

by Brenda and Wesley Jones
and Haley Durgin

**Jon Honeycutt and
Arch Newbold, Jr.**

by Amy and George Hall and
Caroline and Jonathan Kennemur

**Bettye and Jeff Senter
and Faye and Grady Ashcraft**

by the Senter and
Tomlinson families

**Joan and Preston F. Kodak, Jr.
and Charles Wilson**

by Kristi, Scott,
Graham, and Reid Wilson

Sylvia Holland Norman

by Bart Norman, Cate Church
Norman, and Eli and Sam Norman

**Anne and Paul Bray and
Sue and**

Luther Sharp

by Cindy and Jeff Sharp

Mark Bond and Kirk Kirkland

by F3 Raleigh

Pete Carruthers

by the Carruthers, Hunt
and Embree families

**Ida and Hobert Morgan,
Andrew Morgan, Jane Hawkins,**

Leola and Ed White,

Judy Price White,

**Maribelle Scoggin, Karen Jones
and Joan Virginia Hines**

by Danita Morgan and Chris White

Jim Dorsett, Sr.

by Anna Lee Dorsett

**Colin Stephen Gibson
and Hampton Taylor Gibson**

by Iris Pritchard

**Peter Pearsall and
Elizabeth and J.D. Lamm**

by Frances Pearsall

Jim Blount

by Linda Blount

Pete and Bob Sloop

by The Sloop Family

**Marion and Robert Johnson,
Robin Johnson and**

Kathryn and Carmi Preston
by Terry and William Preston

Tom Reeder

by Wendy Reeder

Julia Ann Leffler

by Wanda & Charles Leffler

**Matthew Haneline,
Thelma and Travis Haneline,
and Raymond Terry**

by Karen and Steve Haneline

**Bill Brawley and
Nancy and Glenn Douden**

by Nancy Brawley

Jeff Sanders

by Lynne, Sara and Thomas Sanders

**Barbara and Tom Worth
and Diana Worth Foster**

by Sherry and Tom Worth

IN MEMORY OF

**Yvone Smith Cameron,
Sara and Cliff Cameron
and Cathy Cameron Sigmon**
by Sherry and Tom Worth

**Fay and Jake Smith
and Sara Morris Bragg**
by Beth and Don Comer

IN HONOR OF

Pastors & Staff of WMPC
by Carol Vassey

Our grandchildren
by Betsy and Bill Barnett

Gary Mock
by Frances and Kevin Mock

Reminder that combined worship begins next Sunday April 12,
at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Main Hall.



Scan for the Easter Offering



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[Scan or click here to submit a prayer request.](#)

Music in today's service presented with permission under Podcast/Streaming License with
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AFTER HOURS PASTOR ON CALL: 919-605-4593

Each Sunday we offer three opportunities for you to worship with us at White Memorial in the Sanctuary and OnPoint@1704 in the Main Hall. While you will notice differences in music, location, and worship leadership among our different services, what unites us in our worship is our scripture, liturgy, and sermon. All services use the same Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, readings from Scripture, and Affirmation of Faith.

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host,

It seems likely that this beloved Easter text began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

SERVICE MUSIC

Alleluia!

587

A E D E A D E
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

A E Bm E A D E A
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981; harm. Christopher Walker, 1985
 Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker (Published by OCP)

CELTIC ALLELUIA

609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures



high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise



God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

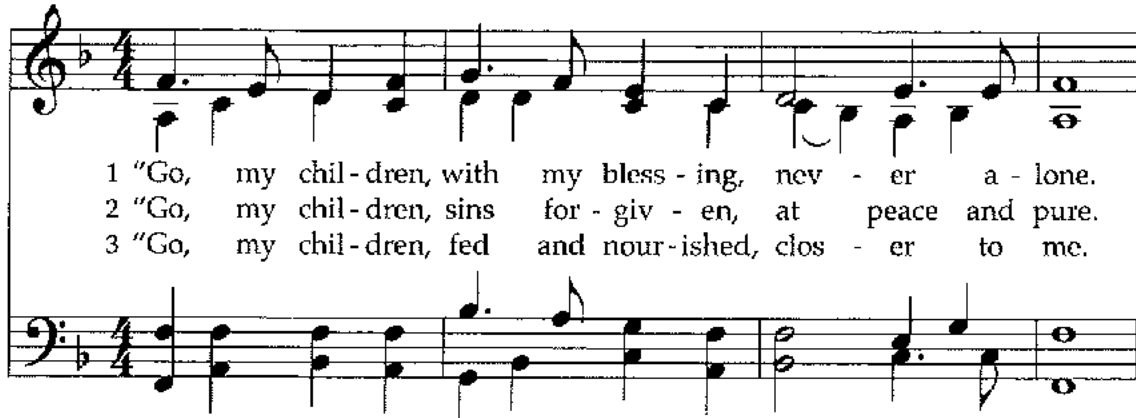


one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

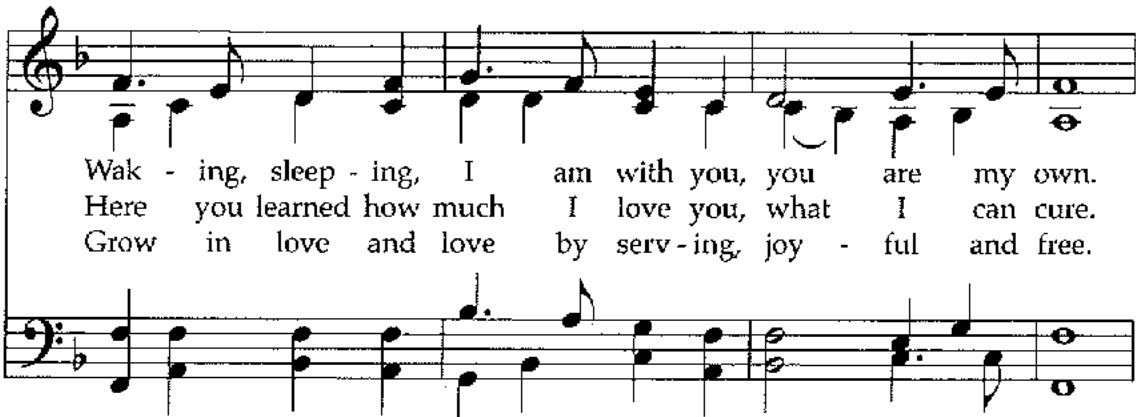


lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

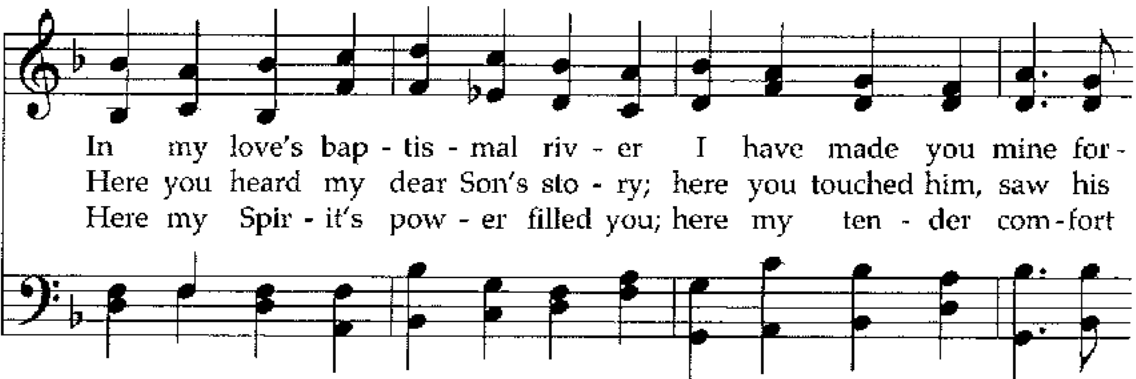
Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



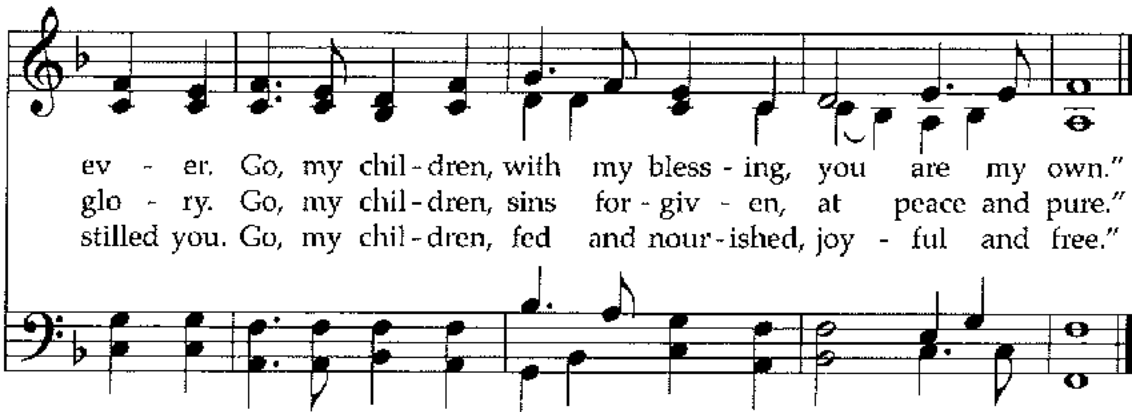
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.