



# Easter Sunrise Service

Service of the Word and Sacrament – Lake Ripley Cemetery  
April 17, 2022 9:00 a.m.

**Please SILENCE ALL Personal Electronic Devices Before Worship.**

## **We Gather as God’s People**

***Welcome to our worship service. Take a moment to quiet yourself as we prepare ourselves for worship.***

**Resurrection** ..... Poem © on March 28, 2020 by James P. Shuman

I miss the pageantry  
Not the choir marching in or the lilies burst open nor the season's new pastel frocks or the half shouted "He is risen"  
That I don't miss: the attempt at artificial exuberance prompted by a liturgical calendar, thrust upon stoic Presbyterians once a year.  
No.  
I miss the flowers.  
The wild daring daffodils  
The hyacinths hungry for sunshine  
The ones whose names I do not know but whose brave beauty brings me joy.  
The high plains slumber in winter's tight grasp; snow fell a day ago. There are no buds on the trees or fresh stems pushing up through the still frozen ground.  
Ah, but when they arrive, not according to a date on a page but when it is by their own sweet time, ah the beauty then!  
When the grass greens, and wildflowers burst open, when buds on trees turn to leaves, then we will sing Alleluia!  
Then we will shout what we know  
Resurrection!

**The Call to Worship** [Responsive] .... *Adapted – The First Gold of Dawn – Jean Murdoch*

*One:* Christ Is Risen!

***Many:* Christ Is Risen Indeed!**

*One:* We gather:

***Many:* a community of faith in God’s subversive world.**

*One:* We gather to celebrate

***Many:* that no darkness can extinguish light,**

*One:* to remember

**Many:** that love will always be more powerful than death,

*One:* and to trust that

**Many:** peace will always be stronger than violence.

*One:* We gather,

**Many:** People of faith in the light of God's world.

*One:* As we gather to celebrate the resurrection, let us proclaim the message of Easter:

**ALL:** Nothing in life or in death can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus the Risen One!

*One:* Alleluia!!

**Many:** Alleluia! Amen!

## **The Resurrection of Jesus – The Gospel of Luke 24:1-12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

## **The Peace**

*One:* The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

*One:* Please share the peace of the Risen Christ with one another.

## **The Reflection**

### **The Resurrection of Jesus – The Gospel of Luke 24:13-35**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group

astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**One:** For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

**Many:** We give thanks to God! Alleluia! Amen!

### **The Invitation to the Table**

*One:* Gather around this resurrection table where all are welcomed and the good earth is affirmed. From her generosity, we bring these gifts of bread and wine.

**Many: Witnesses to hope, we participate in Christ’s liberation.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*One:* The peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

*One:* Be still and know that I am God.

**Many: We are still in your presence, you are still with us.**

*One:* In Christ you accompany us, embodied among us, sharing our birthing, our living, our dying, sharing our dreams of hope and liberation, offering us new life and the shattering of the tomb.

**Many: In Christ you appear as the host at the ebbing and the flowing of our lives.**

*One:* You beckon us to share your hospitality, your challenge of love.

**Many: In Christ you sit as the guest at the table of the stranger.**

*One:* You bless us with your presence, your awakening of love.

**Many: In Christ you stand among us as host and guest at the heart of this community.**

*One:* You share with us your vulnerability, your unwrapping of love. As hosts with Christ, we bless this bread. As guests with Christ, we pour this wine. As welcomed strangers, united in Christ’s life, death, and embodied liberation, we hear the words of promise: This is my body given for you; take and eat to re-

member me. This cup poured out: this is the new covenant in my blood; take and drink to re-member me. In this action of justice-making, we recall broken minds and bodies and blood shed through lust for power and nature's turn of hand.

**Many:** Restore and heal all that is wounded. Be present in the stillness of the waiting. Roll back the stone of prejudice and fear. Release the signs of spring. Amen.

## **The Sharing of Bread and Cup**

## **The Prayer after Communion**

**The Blessing** .....The Magdalene's Blessing For Easter Day by Jan Richardson

## **The Sending**

*One:* May the God whose power breaks through the stone, break into your life and free you from all that binds you;

**Many:** May the Risen Christ whose love is stronger than death speak our names and bring all people to new life and joy;

*One:* May the Spirit of the Risen Christ walk the road with you, giving you wisdom to understand and courage to share God's new life for the whole world. Christ is Risen!

**Many:** Alleluia! Amen!

This morning's liturgy is taken from: The Call to Worship ~ written by Cheryl Lawrie; Eggs & Ashes Practical & liturgical resources for Lent and Holy Week; Compilation © 2004 Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill; Heather Pencavel - Let Justice Roll Down: Worship Resource for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter The Blessing ~ Jan Richardson, from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons.

*Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church is committed to using language in such a way that all members of the community of faith may recognize themselves to be included, addressed, and equally cherished before God. Seeking to bear witness to the whole world, the church struggles to use language which is faithful to the biblical truth and which neither purposefully nor inadvertently excludes people because of gender, color, or other circumstance in life. (Book of Order, W-1.2006)*

- **Holy Humor Sunday, April 24 – 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship** In-person worship continues this Sunday in the sanctuary with Fellowship following worship. We still recommend using masks but it will be optional for those vaccinated and boosted, If someone is not vaccinated, we request that you still wear a mask. Everyone must still be mindful of their own health and the health of others.

## **Church Schedule**

**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday

**Communion:** First Sunday of each month

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**The Blessing** .....The Magdalene's Blessing For Easter Day by Jan Richardson

You hardly imagined  
standing here,  
everything you ever loved  
suddenly returned to you,  
looking you in the eye  
and calling your name.

And now  
you do not know  
how to abide this hole  
in the center  
of your chest,  
where a door  
slams shut  
and swings open  
at the same time,  
turning on the hinge  
of your aching  
and hopeful heart.

I tell you,  
this is not a banishment  
from the garden.

This is an invitation,  
a choice,  
a threshold,  
a gate.

This is your life  
calling to you

from a place  
you could never  
have dreamed,  
but now that you  
have glimpsed its edge,  
you cannot imagine  
choosing any other way.

So let the tears come  
as anointing,  
as consecration,  
and then  
let them go.

Let this blessing  
gather itself around you.

Let it give you  
what you will need  
for this journey.

You will not remember  
the words—  
they do not matter.

All you need to remember  
is how it sounded  
when you stood  
in the place of death  
and heard the living  
call your name.

—Jan Richardson  
from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*

