

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church

MORNING WORSHIP

March 31, 202

PRELUDE “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (arr. Matthew Compton) *Aldersgate Ringers*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves. And it is true. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now and always.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed.

Thanks be to God.

*OPENING HYMN 302 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” *(verses 1, 2, 3, 4 only)*

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

3. Lives again our glorious king, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

2. 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!

4. 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!

*MORNING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of all our days, we come this morning with eager anticipation. We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you. Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew. Open our lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection. May we, with shouts of joy, proclaim your steadfast, liberating love to all people, everywhere. Amen.

ANTHEM

“Because He Lives”

Aldersgate Choir

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jae Cho

1. **Easter people, raise your voices,
 sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
 Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
 heavenly music, let it ring.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Easter people, let us sing.**

2. **Fear of death can no more stop us
 from our pressing here below.
 For our Lord empowered us to**

**triumph over every foe.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 On to victory now we go.**

3. **Every day to us is Easter,
 With its resurrection song.
 When in trouble move the faster
 to our God who rights the wrong.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 See the power of heavenly throngs.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

“Christ Is Risen!”

Jae Cho

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

The Apostles’ Creed

**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;
 the third day he rose from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

* GLORIA 70

**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.**

MISSION MOMENT

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY SONG "Living Hope" (P. Wickham and B. Johnson)

Megan Gould and Melissa Herke

*DOXOLOGY 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

EASTER DAY LITANY

O God, you created everything that exists, and in our darkest hour,
you have looked upon us and forgiven us.

Thank you, O God, for your forgiving love!

O Christ, God's son, you stayed true to your calling,
but humanity resisted your love for justice.

Thank you, O Christ, for your steadfast spirit!

When we are disappointed, tired, ready to give up and give in;
**O God, you resurrected your son, giving us hope for a new day,
a new perspective on life!**

Christ had the courage to let love be the winner.

O God, you said "no" to death and "yes" to love!

O God, because love is now the winner:

The selfish can become generous!

The cautious can be brave!

The dominant can learn empathy and mercy!

The doubters come to belief!

The faithful receive acceptance and fulfillment!

The sick receive healing in its many forms!

The lonely are welcomed into community!

The mourners receive comfort and peace!

The skeptics learn to trust!

O God, because you said “yes” to Christ – “yes” to love:
**We are released from our fears, our timidity, our resistance,
our laziness...and now are given the vision, the strength, and the desire
to live as we have never lived before!**

O God, today...love wins!

We win!

O Christ, you have pioneered the way for us!

Praise and thanks to you, O Christ, our Lord! Amen!

*CLOSING HYMN 310

“He Lives”

1. I serve a risen Savior,
he's in the world today;
I know that he is living,
Whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy,
I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him,
he's always near.

Refrain:
He lives, he lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
along life's narrow way.
He live, he lives,
salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives?
He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me
I see his loving care,
And though my heart grows weary,
I never will despair.
I know that he is leading
through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing
will come at last. *(Refrain)*

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,
lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs
to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him
the help of all who find;
none other is so loving,
So good and kind. *(Refrain)*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Festive Postlude on ‘Truno’” (Mary McDonald)

Juliet Cho