

EASTER April 12, 2020

9:30am

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Acts 10: 34-43

Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly, I perceive God shows no partiality, but in every nation, anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is LORD of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the Baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on the tree; but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify to people that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

MOMENTS FOR MINISTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP

God who terrified the waters to recede, crashed thunder, shook the foundations of the earth and scared the wits out of chaos. God who with a strong arm saved God's people and fed them in the wilderness. You are the same God to whom we turn in days of trouble and weary nights. We look for steadfast love and are dismayed; we await your promises, but in fatigue; we ponder our forgetfulness and lack of compassion and we grow silent. We come in deep bewilderment and wonder, deeply trusting – almost afraid to trust too much, passionately insisting, fervently hoping, exhausted for hoping too much too long. Tamer of chaos, mender of tears in the canvas of creation, we ponder your suffering, your crown of thorns, your mocked life, your shameful humiliation unto death with the suffering of the world. Champion over death, for whom the powers of death could not hold, come in your Easter, come in your sweeping victory, come in your glorious new life. Easter us, in joy and strength. Be our God, be your true self, Lord of life, turn our world toward you and away from mortal death. Hear our thankful, grateful, unashamed: ALLELUIA!

HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

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CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Brightness of God's glory and exact image of God's person, whom death could not conquer, nor the stone tomb imprison, as you shared our frailty in human flesh, help us to share your immortality in Spirit. Let no virus cripple us, no shadow of the grave terrify us, 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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

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GLORIA PATRI

