



**April 4, 2021 EASTER SUNDAY**

**PRELUDE**

*Fanfare for Easter*

Z. Richards

Mike Finkelstein –Trumpet, Neal Romberg –Trombone

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Pastor Craig and Pastor Diane

L: He is risen!

L; He is risen!

**P: He is risen indeed!**

**OPENING HYMN**

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

232

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia! unto Christ our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!  
praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

**PASSING OF PEACE, POURING OF WATER & RINGING OF THE BOWL**

## **LITANY FOR EASTER**

L: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become LORD of life. From the waters of death, You raise us with him and renew Your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, helping us to grow as Your people toward the fullness of eternal life. O Christ, after Your resurrection, You appeared to Your disciples; You breathed upon them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit. You gave joy and exultation to the whole creation.

**P: Hear us, Lord of glory.**

L: O Christ, after Your resurrection You sent out Your disciples as apostles to teach the Nations, to baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; You promised to be with Your apostles until the end of the world.

**P: Hear us, Lord of glory.**

L: O Christ, through Your resurrection You lifted us up and filled us with rejoicing. Through Your salvation You enrich us with Your gifts. Renew our lives and fill our hearts with joy.

**P: Hear us, Lord of glory.**

L: Save us, O Christ our LORD, in Your goodness, extend Your mercy to Your people who await the resurrection, and have mercy upon us.

## **CALL TO PRAYER**

God gave God's only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of death. Let us pray to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with Him in the joy of His resurrection.

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty GOD, in raising Jesus from the grave, You shattered the powers of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and hungry, we pass by those who mourn, we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, indifferent to calls for peace, we despise the weak and abuse the earth You made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust Your power to change lives and make us new, that we might know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ the risen LORD. Amen

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Brightness of God's glory, exact image of God's person, whom death could not conquer, nor tomb imprison, as You have shared our fleshy frailty help us to share Your immortal Spirit! Let no shadow of the grave terrify us, no fear of darkness turn our hearts from You. Fill Your church with the power that flows from Christ's resurrection, that, in the midst of our sinful world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity! I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ: We are forgiven!

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

Greatorex

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.

## **ANTHEM**

*Easter Song*

A. Herring/J. Reed

Brandon Jones – Soloist, Neal Romberg - Trombone

## **PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 8:1-4, 38-39

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the laws of sin and death. For God has done what the law weakened by the flesh could not do: Sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but to the Spirit. I AM sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, not things present nor things to come, no powers, no heights, nor depths, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **GOSPEL**

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, They have taken the LORD out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and he went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my LORD, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned around, and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned again and said to him in Hebrew "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher!). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold onto me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the LORD"; she told them that he had said these things to her.

**SERMON**

Do Not Hold Me

Pastor Craig

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostle's Creed (In-Person Worship)

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** (Recorded Worship)

**HYMN**

*The Day of Resurrection*

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The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the passover of gladness, the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,  
our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be purged of evil, that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.



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**Today's Hymn Singer**

Brandon Jones

Due to Covid-19, we must request we not sing aloud.

**All taped Worship Services are available for replay on the Special Video Worship**

**Welcome to all who view our worship services at home and to those who enter our sanctuary.** Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together in spirit. If you are a visitor and would like more information about our church, visit us at valleypres.net where you can sign up for our daily email blasts and monthly newsletter. You can also pick up a Welcome Packet at the Welcome Centers when you visit us in person. We are glad you have joined us today.

**Please remember those recently hospitalized:** Quentin Gessner and Jim Frisch

**Resurrection Taize Worship**

This Wednesday, April 7, 5:00 p.m. on our website (valleypres.net). Continue to celebrate the Resurrection in the Taize style of beautiful music, scripture and prayer.

**New Class! A.D. The Crucifixion Was Only the Beginning**

Begins Wednesday, April 7, 1 p.m. by Zoom. This class follows the first 10 chapters of the Book of Acts as the Gospel began to spread. Contact Pastor Diane to register ([pastordiane@valleypres.net](mailto:pastordiane@valleypres.net); 625-5023)

**Patio Sale: April 15-17**

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
February-2021		Through Week #13 (03/28/21)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 46,100	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	173
Monthly Giving Budget	\$ 73,971	* YTD 2021 Attendance Sanctuary	1424
*YTD Giving Support	\$ 116,832	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	132
*YTD Giving Budget	\$ 159,762	** YTD 2021 Viewing On-Line	2022
		* YTD 2021 Attendance / On-Line	3446
		* YTD 2020 Attendance Sanctuary	5272
<p>* YTD = Year to Date      ** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service</p> <p><i>D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959      2021 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member</i></p>			