

A Congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church www.thehavenli.com

Then they were glad that the waters were quiet and He brought them to their desired haven.

Psalm 107:30

The Lord's Day - Easter Sunday

A Day of <u>Special Remembrance</u> of the Resurrection of Christ

April 12, 2020

A Service for Family Worship

Another Unusual Lord's Day

+ Our "Present Distress": The apostle Paul uses this phrase in I Corinthians 7:26 to speak of circumstances at certain times and places which disrupt the usual order of things. Wartime, for example, disrupts marriages, family life, the economy, and society as a whole. Currently, with the "present distress" of the coronavirus, we are in a time of such disruption. In order to contain the spread of this highly infectious virus, those in authority over us have asked that - for the time being - all unnecessary travel be suspended, and also that there be no gatherings of more than ten. This has, of course, led to the closing of most churches and the curtailing of public worship, at least for a time. We are currently not permitted to use our usual meeting place, Ascension Lutheran Church in Deer Park, NY.

Many churches are now using live streaming or recorded video to have "virtual worship services", in which homebound people can access the service and follow along through an electronic device. The Haven, OPC's elders in training, Jimmy Brewer and John Vaeth, and I discussed this option. However, until the "present distress" is over we have chosen to provide something that will help heads of households lead a family worship service on the Lord's Day. We opted for this for two reasons:

- 1. "Family Worship" is part of our doctrinal commitment. Our Confession of Faith affirms that "God is to be worshiped everywhere, in spirit and in truth, as in private, **families** (emphasis mine), daily, in secret, each one by himself, so, more solemnly in the public assemblies" (WCF 21:6) This "present distress" gives us an opportunity to practice family worship something that is both very foreign to our culture and challenging in a day of multiple time commitments and distractions. It's a good time to learn something that should be part of every family's healthy Christian life whether or not we are in a time of "present distress.".
- 2. This gives an opportunity to invite others to join you (honoring sanitary standards, of course) in your home for what can become a useful evangelistic opportunity.

You should have your family worship with access to an electronic device so that you can use the links to the hymn. In that way you will be able to sing along with another group, albeit a recorded one. You'll also need your electronic device to access the Lord's Day sermon through <u>sermonaudio.com</u>. It's especially important that pastors keep up their ministries to the flock in this day of fear, anxiety, and uncertainty. We need to be reminded that there is no uncertainty in our God - and he IS in control!

So, heads of households - whether you are single or have family members - may the following special bulletin for this "present distress" help you and your household worship the Lord acceptably and joyfully on this upcoming Lord's Day Sabbath.

Yours in our ever faithful Savior, Pastor Bill

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- + **The Haven, OPC** is a home mission work of the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York, Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). For more information on the Orthodox Presbyterian Church: www.opc.org For more information about this church, visit our website: www.thehavenli.com
- + **Pastoral Needs:** To contact Pastor Bill, his study phone number is (516) 593-1507, or you can reach him by e mail at **WShishko@gmail.com**

A Service for Family Worship The Lord's Day — Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020 Preparation for Worship: Psalm 45:1-20

(Remember: The King is <u>Jesus!</u> The Royal Bride is his <u>Church!</u>).

THE LORD OUR GOD CALLS US

The Promise of God's Presence:

Leader: Where two or three are gathered together, in Christ's name, he promises that he is there among them. (Matthew 18:20). That promise is fulfilled by the Spirit of the risen Jesus Christ, who is with us now!

People: Amen!

Call to Worship: Matthew 28:1-9 (Read by Family Worship Leader)

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Leader: The Lord has risen!

People: He has risen, indeed!

All: Hallelujah!

Opening Hymn: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (turn to next page)

Sing along and be blessed: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15dmjnB8FZU



Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord! People: Who made heaven and earth!

†Opening Prayer (Leader may use his own words, or the following):

Now, our God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Meet with us according to your promise. Bless the reading, singing, preaching, and praying of your Word to the end that we might know Jesus Christ, in whom is eternal life and true blessedness. We ask in His wonderful name.

All: Amen!

THE LORD OUR GOD CLEANSES US

Call to Confession of Sin: "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:1-4)

Corporate Confession (which may be preceded by a time of private confession):

Our death-conquering God: We praise you for Christ's resurrection from the dead, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the glory of the Father. And we praise you that, by baptism, we are marked out as those united with Christ in both his death and his resurrection. Forgive us when we do not walk as those crucified and raised with Christ. Forgive us when we live according to the flesh and not by faith in Christ as the Lord and Savior and as our Lord and Savior. Grant us daily repentance; and grant the Holy Spirit to us so that, in his power, we might walk in newness of life. We ask this for the glory of the one who gives us his own life, Jesus Christ - our Prophet, our Priest, and our King. Amen.

God Comforts Us With His Promises: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Romans 6:5-11)

People: Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!

Our Response of Praise: "Come, People of the Risen King" (Turn to the next page) Sing along and be blessed: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9j07fbld3uY

COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING

Stanza 1

Come people of the Risen King
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him;
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let ev'ry tongue rejoice. One heart! One voice! O Church of Christ: Rejoice!

Stanza 2

Come those whose joy is morning sun; And those weeping through the night. Come those who tell of battles won; And those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change, And His mercies never cease; But follow us through all our days, With the certain hope of peace. (Chorus)

Stanza 3

Come young and old from ev'ry land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come those with full or empty hands;
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world His people sing;
Shore to shore we hear them call.
The truth that cries through ev'ry age:
Our God is all in all!
(Chorus 2X)

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THE LORD OUR GOD CONSECRATES US

Old Covenant Reading: Psalm 16:7-11

7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. 11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

New Covenant Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Leader: The grass withers, and the flowers fade away; but the word of our God will stand forever!

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only Son of God,

begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made;

of the same essence as the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried.

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.

His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life.

He proceeds from the Father and the Son,

and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic (universal) and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,

and to life in the world to come. Amen.

*†*We Prepare Our Hearts for the Word of God Preached:

Hymn of Praise: "Christ is Risen He is Risen Indeed!"

(turn page)

Rejoice and Sing Along: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRnG2xzzEaU

Christ Is Risen He Is Risen Indeed!

Verse 1

How can it be the One who died Has borne our sin through sacrifice To conquer every sting of death Sing sing hallelujah

Verse 2

For joy awakes as dawning light When Christ's disciples lift their eyes Alive He stands their Friend and King Christ Christ He is risen

Chorus

Christ is risen He is risen indeed Oh sing hallelujah Join the chorus sing with the redeemed Christ is risen He is risen indeed.

Verse 3

Where doubt and darkness once had been They saw <u>Him</u> and their hearts believed But blessed are those who have not seen Yet sing hallelujah

Verse 4

Once bound by fear now bold in faith They preached the truth and power of grace And pouring out their lives they gained Life life everlasting. (Chorus)

Verse 5

The power that raised Him from the grave Now works in us to powerfully save He frees our hearts to live His grace Go tell of His goodness (Chorus 2X)

Ending

He's alive He's alive Heaven's gates are opened wide He's alive He's alive Now in heaven glorified (Repeat 2X)

CCLI Song # 6399205

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For the following parts of worship:

sermonaudio.com/sermon/41120172434809

Prayer for Understanding and for Transformation **People: Amen!**

Sermon: "COVID-19: The Ultimate Antidote"

Prayer for Blessing on the Word of God Preached and Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison)

Our Father which art in heaven:

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done in 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 the Evil One.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen!

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Closing Hymn:" Worship Christ, the Risen King! (1,2,4,5) (Turn to Next Page)
Listen, sing along, rejoice: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94Bz7EjblHc
(respond with the choir/congregation/everyone)

The Lord Our God Commissions Us

Leader: Prayer of Benediction:

May the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ equip us with everything good that we may do his will, working in us what is pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever!.

People: Amen!

Go forth in peace to love and serve those around you - in Jesus' Name

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

369



- 1. Rise, O church, and lift your voic-es, Christ has con-quered death and hell.
- 2. See the tomb where death had laid him, emp ty now, its mouth de clares:
- 3. Hear the earth pro test and trem-ble, see the stone re moved with pow'r;
- 4. Doubt may lift its head to mur-mur, scoff-ers mock and sin-ners jeer;
- 5. We ac-claim your life, O Je sus, now we sing your vic to ry;





Sing as all the earth re-joic-es; res - ur - rec - tion an-thems swell. "Death and I could not con-tain him, for the throne of life he shares."

• all hell's min-ions may as-sem-ble, but can-not with-stand his hour. but the truth pro-claims a won-der thought-ful hearts re - ceive with cheer. sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your con-quest keeps us free.

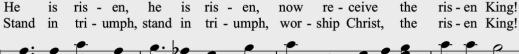




Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the He has con-quered, he has con-quered, Christ the Lord, the

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ris - en King!





Jack Hayford, 1986

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7. Henry Smart, 1867

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Announcements

+ Haven Hope Givers: That's our ministry of reaching out by cards and notes to inmates who have learned about (and pray for) The Haven, OPC. Send a message of Gospel hope to: Mr. Darren Emanuel, #03A2176, Fishkill Correctional Facility, POB 1245, Beacon, NY 12508 & Mr. Arthur F. Tomlinson #12B1623, Eastern New York Correctional Facility, PO Box 338, Napanoch, NY 12458. You can now e mail them: Go to https://www.jpay.com/ to learn more and to sign up.

Also: Send cards and notes of encouragement to <u>Grace Slezak</u>: 373 W. 21st St., Deer Park, NY 11729, and also to <u>Barbara Brewer</u>, 66 East 2nd St., Deer Park, NY 11729 Encourage them with God's promises as they go through cancer treatments and related surgery.

+ Haven Open Forum: Today at 4:30 p.m. Join us. and invite others to this new Haven outreach!

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/263522381

Call in at 4:25 p.m. so that we can all be "present" for the meeting at 4:30.

It's helpful if you e mail your question to Pastor Bill in advance: <u>WShishko@gmail.com</u> Or you can text your questions to him at the special Pastor Bill Text Free number: (516) 367-0391

- + *Sing!* Our monthly "choir practice" is at the home of John & Mary Vaeth (46 Monell Ave., Islip). God willing, our next *Sing!* meeting will be <u>Tuesday, May 7. from 7:30 9:00 p.m.</u>
- + Prayer Meeting,: This Wednesday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/814974453

Call in at 7:25 p.m. so that we can all be "present" for the meeting at 7:30.

Be sure to have your weekly "Present Distress" Prayer List that comes out on Saturday evenings. We'll hear any updates and spend most of the time in prayer.

- + "Zoomytery Meeting": Our presbytery (Connecticut and Southern New York, OPC) meets via Zoom this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Pray that the meeting will be a fruitful one despite the limitations of meeting by teleconference rather than in person. Pastor Shishko, Jimmy Brewer, John Vaeth, and Paul Toto will be "attending."
- + Presbytery Church Picnic: Saturday, June 27. More details to come. Mark your calendars!
- + **Banks:** Remember to put your spare change into your special "Worldwide Outreach" banks. In November we'll apply these gifts to our annual Thank Offering gift.

You can continue to give your tithes and offerings even when we're not able to meet during this "present distress". Send them to: Kathy Toto, 34 Spinnaker Ln., Patchogue, NY 11772

Checks payable to "The Haven OPC LLC"

Or: Scroll to the bottom of our website's home page.

Look for the green "Donate to The Haven" button.

https://www.thehavenli.com/