

A detailed botanical illustration of a lily flower, rendered in a light green color. The drawing shows the flower's petals, stamens, and pistil with fine lines and shading to indicate texture and depth. The flower is positioned vertically, with the top of the flower at the top of the page and the stem extending towards the bottom. The background is a solid, light blue color.

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNRISE SERVICE

MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN

MARCH 27, 2016

Thank you for worshipping with us this Easter morning! Today we celebrate our Lord's resurrection from the dead.

A belief in Jesus' resurrection is waning even among those who profess to be Christians. So you might ask: Why is it that we believe in His bodily resurrection? Here are four reasons:

- **The Prophetic Scriptures:** The historical event of Jesus' resurrection occurred to fulfill the promises of the Old Testament Scriptures. A Jewish man who knew the Old Testament well and who initially hated Jesus and persecuted Christians wrote: Jesus "was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures" (I Corinthians 15:4). Some of these Old Testament verses would include Psalm 16:10 and Isaiah 53:10.
- **The Empty Tomb:** We can identify the tombs of the founders of other religions. However, the angel's wonderful words to the women at Jesus' tomb have reverberated down through the centuries: "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead" (Matthew 28:6-7a).
- **The Eyewitnesses:** There are many eyewitnesses who validate the historical event of Jesus' resurrection. We know that over 500 people saw Jesus in His resurrected body.
- **Transformed Lives:** The last reason we believe in the resurrection is the transformed lives of Christ's followers through the centuries. Violent persecutors like Saul became fervent preachers of the Gospel. Those who were naturally cowards became bold as lions as they willingly died a martyr's death for Christ.

What difference should the resurrection of Jesus Christ make in our lives?

- First of all, the resurrection of Jesus Christ revolutionizes how we view death. Many people live in denial of their own mortality. In fact, Sigmund Freud said, "Death is a "painful riddle... for which no remedy at all has yet been found, nor probably ever will be." For those who trust in Jesus, death is no longer final, fatal and painful riddle. II Corinthians 4:14 says, "knowing that He (God) who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence." Death is not the end for a follower of Jesus.
- Secondly, the resurrection of Jesus Christ revolutionizes our reason for living. We no longer fear a life of futility. We no longer live strictly for ourselves. We live for Him who died and rose again on our behalf (II Corinthians 5:15).

Leo Tolstoy posited a question that almost brought him to the brink of suicide. He asked, "What will come of what I do today or tomorrow? What will come of my entire life? Is there any meaning in my life that will not be annihilated by the inevitability of death which awaits me?"

The resurrection of Jesus Christ proves that there is a purpose for your life that death cannot destroy. Through simply receiving Jesus Christ as Your crucified and resurrected Savior, you will enjoy a life-giving relationship with the God who made you and who was willing to pay an incredible price to rescue you from peril and to bring you into His presence to live forever and ever.

This is why we celebrate Easter!

ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

Welcome to the Sunrise Service,
hosted by Second Presbyterian Church.
May our worship open our hearts to God's love,
our eyes to God's beauty, our minds to God's truth,
and our will to God's service.

Christ Is Risen!

BAGPIPE PRELUDE

EASTER INTROIT: "Were You There?"Traditional Spiritual

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
Oh, sometimes I feel like shouting, "Glory! Glory! Glory!"
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?

Mary Grace Edwards and Ruthie Mengistu

♠ CALL TO WORSHIPD. Todd Erickson

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord is our strength and our song;

he has become our salvation.

For Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

♠ "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" LLANFAIR



1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Hymns of praise then let us sing Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um-phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

♠ RESURRECTION LITANY . . . Adapted from Revelation 1:17-18; 2 Timothy 1:10b; John 11:25-26

We praise You, O reigning Lord, for reassuring us when we suffer:

**"To fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one.
 I died, and behold I am alive forevermore,
 and I have the keys of death and the grave."**

We adore You, O risen Savior, for You have abolished death

and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

We magnify You, O living Christ, for You declare:

**"I am the resurrection and the life.
 Whoever believes in me, even though he die, yet shall he live,
 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."**

♠HYMN OF RESURRECTION: "Worship Christ, the Risen King" REGENT SQUARE



1. Rise, O Church, and lift your voi - ces; Christ has con - quered
 2. See the tomb where death had laid Him; Emp - ty now, its
 3. Hear the earth prot - est and trem - ble; See the stone re -
 4. Doubt may lift its head to mur - mur, Scof - fers mock and
 5. We ac - claim Your life, O Je - sus; Now we sing your



death and hell. Sing as all the earth re - joi - ces;
 mouth de - clares; "Death and I could not con - tain Him,
 moved with pow'r. All hell's min - ions may as - sem - ble,
 sin - ners jeer; But the truth pro - claims a won - der,
 vic - to - ry. Sin or hell may seek to seize us,



Re - sur - rec - tion an - thems swell. Come and wor - ship,
 For the throne of life He shares." Come and wor - ship,
 But can - not with - stand His hour. He has con - quered,
 Tho't - ful hearts re - ceive with cheer. He is ri - sen,
 But Your con - quest keeps us free. Stand in tri - umph,



come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the ri - sen King!
 come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the ri - sen King!
 He has con - quered; Christ the Lord, the ri - sen King!
 He is ri - sen; Now re - ceive the ri - sen King!
 stand in tri - umph; Wor - ship Christ, the ri - sen King!

♠PRAYER OF ADORATION

♠EASTER GREETINGS

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away 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."

So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had 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 went back to their homes.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

HOMILY: "Jesus: Raised" David A. Bowen

♠HYMN OF TRIUMPH: "Alleluia, Alleluia!" ODE TO JOY



1. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voi - ces raise.
 2. Christ is ri - sen, Christ the first-fruits of the ho - ly harv - est yield,
 3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
 which will all its full a - bun-dance at his se - cond com - ing yield.
 al - le - lu - ia! to the Sa - vior, who has won the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
 Then the gol - den ears of harv - est will their heads be - fore him wave,
 al - le - lu - ia! to the Spi - rit, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;



Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
 rip - ened by his glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! to the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

♠BENEDICTION

♠BAGPIPE POSTLUDE

♠Indicates congregation standing

Second Presbyterian Church

The Memphis Sunrise Service and reception to follow are hosted by Second Presbyterian Church. To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Pastor Todd Erickson at (901) 312-9890 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.

If you'd like to learn more about the reason for Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection, complimentary copies of the *New Testament* and *He Did This Just for You* are available inside the reception area.

We invite you to worship with us on campus later this morning during one of our Easter services at 8:00, 9:30, or 11:00 a.m. We also welcome you to worship with us weekly on Sundays in the morning at 8:15 or 11:00 and in the evening at 6:00 p.m. Nursery is available for ages four and under during all services.

Please save the dates for these upcoming events:

Gathering on the Grounds: Each Fall and Spring, we take time to enjoy the beautiful seasonal weather by hosting our Sunday Night Worship service outdoors. On April 24, at 5:00 p.m., we invite you to bring lawn chairs and a picnic and join our church family on the Poplar football field for a time of fellowship and music, followed by evening worship outdoors.

Vacation Bible School: Kids, invite a friend and get ready for a week of fun, games, crafts, music, and learning during VBS, June 6-10, from 9:00-11:45 a.m. We welcome all children ages 3 (by January 1, 2016) through sixth grade. A special needs class is also provided. Registration will open soon at 2pc.org/vbs.

Find out more about these and other events at 2pc.org. To receive our weekly email newsletter, visit 2pc.org/subscribe to sign up.



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