

April 4, 2021

Leesburg United Methodist Church - Easter SONRise!

The Easter Season (the “Great Fifty Days”) begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues to the Day of Pentecost, May 23. In joy and celebration (dance!), the Easter Season invites us to focus on Christ’s resurrection and his ascension into heaven. This year we turn our attention to the growing community of Christ followers in Acts. We see the risen Christ in their dance of joy and hope in Christ, and as they grow to be a healing, helping, praying, caring, persevering, and witnessing community!

WELCOME AND GREETING

John 1:1, 4-5

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ our Lord! On this most holy morning, we have come to celebrate Jesus Christ rising from death to life!

We join with all of God’s people, in heaven and on earth, to proclaim the victory of Christ over death, his power to deliver us from sin and death, and God’s offer of freedom to live and walk in the light of God’s glory.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

PRAYER

Let us pray:

Holy and loving God, we praise you that in Christ Jesus, you opened the way to eternal life for all.

In him, we find an eternal flame of life and hope for all the world, which can never be extinguished! Shine the light of your life and love upon us.

Spread your light through us to give witness that Christ is alive!

On this resurrection morning, we praise you and worship you, Holy God, through your Son, our Savior; who is the risen Christ! Amen.

SONG

“How Great Thou Art”

Oh Lord, my God, when I in Awesome wonder / Consider all the worlds thy hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder / Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee / How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee / How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

And when I think that God, his son not sparing / Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing / He bled and died to take away my sin.

Chorus

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation / And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.

Then I shall bow in humble adoration, / And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

Chorus

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Mark 16:1-8

Pastor Jim Wishmyer

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news, which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

We believe Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. We believe Christ is the head of the church, which is his body. His death on the cross reconciles all who believe, to God and to one another. We believe that he is the resurrection and the life, for all! Thanks be to God! Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is right... and so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you and blessed is your Son... we offer our selves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit... all honor and glory is your Almighty God, now and forever

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SONG

"Alleluia! He is Coming!"

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming; I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming, down the road, down the road.

Refrain: Alleluia, He is coming! Alleluia, He is here! Alleluia, He is coming! Alleluia He is here.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping; I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping, for my sins, for my sins. **Refrain**

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying; I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying, on the cross, on the cross. **Refrain**

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising; I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising, from the grave, from the grave. **Refrain**

BENEDICTION

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Go. Tell others the good news: Christ is risen!

Jesus is risen! He is alive and he is Lord! Alleluia!

