



# *First Baptist Church*

**Worship Service for Sunday, March 31st, 2024**

Easter Sunday - Baptismal Service

*Welcome! Young children are welcome in the service or in our staffed nursery.*

*The collection is taken at the doorways as you enter the sanctuary.*

*\*Please stand as you are able whether you are participating at home or in the sanctuary.*

## **We Gather as God's People**

**Silent Prayer:** Almighty God, with life you defeat death, with light you overcome darkness, with love you conquer evil. May we believe in your Son, risen from the dead, and be filled with your Holy Spirit, so that we might receive these gifts of life, light and love which you offer in abundance, and live in such a way that you are glorified, now and forever. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Maria Fuller

Morning Chimes

Oluseye Popoola

Leader: Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed.

**All: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!**

Leader: I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing. I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

**All: To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!**

Leader: I saw a new heaven and a new earth. He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new! I will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things is passing away."

**All: Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed.**

Leader: Christ is risen.

**All: He is risen indeed.**

Leader: Halleluia! Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed!**

**How can it be, the One who died, has borne our sin through sacrifice,  
To conquer every sting of death? Sing, sing hallelujah.  
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.**

**Where doubt and darkness once had been,  
They saw him and their hearts believed.  
But blessed are those who have not seen, yet, sing hallelujah.**

**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)*

**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)*

Prayer of Invocation

Cheryl Johnston

Leader: Welcome in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The  
Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed!**

Welcoming One Another

## **We Approach God**

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\*Hymn of Praise

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

#217

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Dying once he all doth save, Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave, Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

Gift of Music

“The Trumpet Shall Sound”

Michael Hawkes  
Shannon Andreas

## **We Listen to God**

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Scripture Reader

Heather Russell-MacLean

Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:3-11

N.T. page 56

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 118

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**All: Let Israel say, "The Lord's steadfast love endures forever."**

Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

**All: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

**All: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.**

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

**All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

**All: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, his steadfast love endures forever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

\*Gospel Lesson: Mark 16:1-8

N.T. page 55

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

## **We Celebrate**

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Preparation for Baptism Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music "Easter Joy! Alleluia" Sanctuary Choir  
*(Words to this song can be found at the back of the bulletin.)*

Choral Response "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" #127, refrain  
*(After each baptism, we will sing this refrain:)*

**O come to my heart Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you.**

Call to Baptism: Acts 2.32-39 Cheryl Johnston

Sponsor's Words of Affirmation  
Baptism Christine Cantor

**O come to my heart Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you.**

Sponsor's Words of Affirmation  
Baptism Sara Orthner

**O come to my heart Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you.**

Sponsor's Words of Affirmation  
Baptism Rowan Russell-MacLean

**O come to my heart Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you.**

## **We Respond to God**

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Prayers of the People

Cheryl Johnston

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.**

Our Gifts and Offerings

Cheryl Johnston

\*Hymn of Response

"Christ Arose"

#216

**Low in the grave he lay, Jesus, my Saviour,  
Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!**

*(Chorus:)*

**Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes,  
He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
And he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus, my Saviour;  
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus, my Lord! *(Chorus)***

**Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus, my Saviour;  
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord! *(Chorus)***

\*Welcoming of the Baptized and the Affirmation of Our Baptismal Vows

\*Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **We Depart to Serve God**

\*Response Of Praise

"Thine Is the Glory"

#227

*Members of the congregation wishing to join the Sanctuary Choir in the singing of Handel's "The Hallelujah Chorus" are invited to come to the platform during the singing of "Thine is the Glory". Each section will have someone holding a sign to indicate where to stand. Music will be handed out.*

**Thine is the glory, risen conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

*(Chorus:)*

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.**

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. *(Chorus)***



\*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

\*Choral Benediction

“Hallelujah Chorus”

Join others for a special Easter “A Time for Friends” downstairs in the lower hall.

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt after the worship service - not before or during!

Scattered and hidden around the Sanctuary today you will find Easter Eggs. An egg is a symbol of hidden, new life. Baptism is also about the new life we have in Jesus. The Bible says, “If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation - the old is gone, the new has come!”



## **Easter Joy! Alleluia!**

*(Words: J. Paul Williams; Music: Jon Paige)*

Christ is risen from the dead. Rejoice, singing alleluia.  
Christ is risen as he said. Rejoice, singing alleluia.  
Our hope is risen from the grave, redemption rolled the stone away.  
Let the world in one accord sing, great are the works of the Lord.  
Christ is risen from the grave.  
Rejoice, come and sing praise to the King. Rejoice, singing alleluia.

Christ is risen, hear the call. Rejoice, singing alleluia.  
Christ is risen Lord of all. Rejoice, singing alleluia.  
Our faith is risen from the grave; new life has rolled the stone away.  
Now our song has been restored for great are the works of the Lord.  
Christ is risen Lord of all. Rejoice, come and sing praise to the King.  
Rejoice, singing alleluia.

Jesus is risen, Jesus is risen,  
Jesus is risen, Jesus is risen,  
Christ is risen from the grave. Rejoice, singing alleluia.  
Risen with the pow'r to save. Rejoice, singing alleluia!  
Our joy is risen from the grave, for love has rolled the stone away.  
Let the world sing in one accord; sing, great are the works of the Lord.  
Christ is risen from the grave. Rejoice, come and sing praise to the King.  
Rejoice, singing alleluia to the risen King!  
Sing unto the King! Alleluia, sing! Sing unto the King! Alleluia, sing.  
Sing unto the King! Sing unto the King!



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