

AN EASTER AFFIRMATION:

Leader: There was darkness over the earth before creation;

People: There is darkness in the womb before birth;

Leader: The seed grows in darkness before it meets this light;

People: There is darkness in the tomb before resurrection.

Leader: But now Christ is risen!

People: The dawn has come.

Leader: A new creation has commenced.

People: The world is born anew.

Leader: Christ is Risen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" #327
(see insert)

BENEDICTION AND SENDING

Thank you to Aaron Johnson and Mark Smith for their kind assistance in helping me prepare for this morning's service.



EASTER

THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED.

LUKE 24:34

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE –THOMPSON PARK

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Leon (Toby) Schilling is preaching

GATHERING

EASTER PROCLAMATION:

Leader: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: For us the stone has been rolled away.

People: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Leader: Christ has been raised from death to new life.

HYMN: "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" #315
(see Insert)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: No matter how often the dawn heralds day's beginning with sounds and light, we always welcome the sense of newness that morning gives.

People: Thanks be to God! Christ is risen!

Leader: And no matter how many times we hear the Easter story proclaimed in song and gospel, we always welcome the assurance of newness that Christ's resurrection gives.

People: Christ is risen! Thanks be to God!

Leader: By our Creator's power, the wondrous transition from death to life is a matter of grace.

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain 315

1. Come, ye faith-ful, raise the strain of tri-umphant glad-ness;
2. 'Tis the spring of souls to-day; Christ hath burst his pris-on,
3. Now the queen of sea-sons, bright with the day of splen-dor,
4. Neith-er might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por-tal,
5. "Al-le-lu-ia!" now we cry to our King im-mor-tal,

God hath brought forth Is-ra-el in-to joy from sad-ness;
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris-en;
with the roy-al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren-der;
nor the watch-ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor-tal;
who, tri-umphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por-tal;

loosed from Phar-ah's bit-ter yoke Ja-cob's sons and daugh-ters,
all the win-ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly-ing
comes to glad Je-ru-sa-lem, who with true af-fec-tion
but to-day a-midst the twelve thou didst stand, be-stow-ing
"Al-le-lu-ia!" with the Son, God the Fa-ther prais-ing,

led them with un-moist-ened foot through the Red Sea wa-ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un-dy-ing.
wel-comes in un-wea-ried strains Je-sus' res-ur-rec-tion.
that thy peace which ev-er-more pass-eth hu-man know-ing.
"Al-le-lu-ia!" yet a-gain to the Spir-it rais-ing.

327 Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,

Hark! how the heav-enly an-them drowns all mu-sic but its own.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
 those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
 His reign shall know no end, and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - cr, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

All: Thanks be to God! Christ is risen!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Oh God, giver of new life, we gather this morning with our alleluias, our prayers and stories and song. Today Lent is ended, and the time of our salvation has begun. The snow has melted, the flowers are blooming; we come to worship in beauty and in truth. We come because we have hope that the resurrection will enter into each of our lives and transform them. Through Christ's spirit we have come to love one another. This is what you showed us on the first Easter when you raised your son from the dead; Your son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray.

LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. Amen.

THE ACCOUNT OF THE RESURRECTION: John 20: 1-18

SERMON THOUGHTS