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.

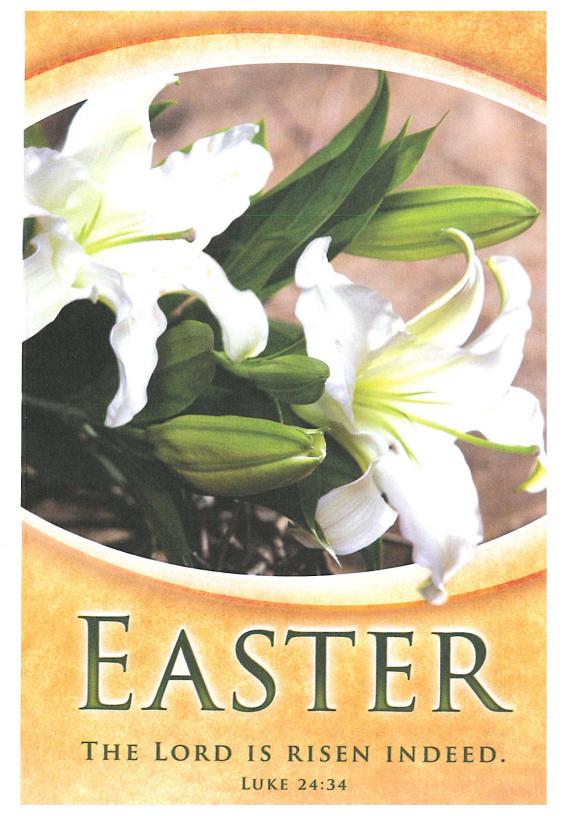
Leader: Christ is Risen.

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 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:

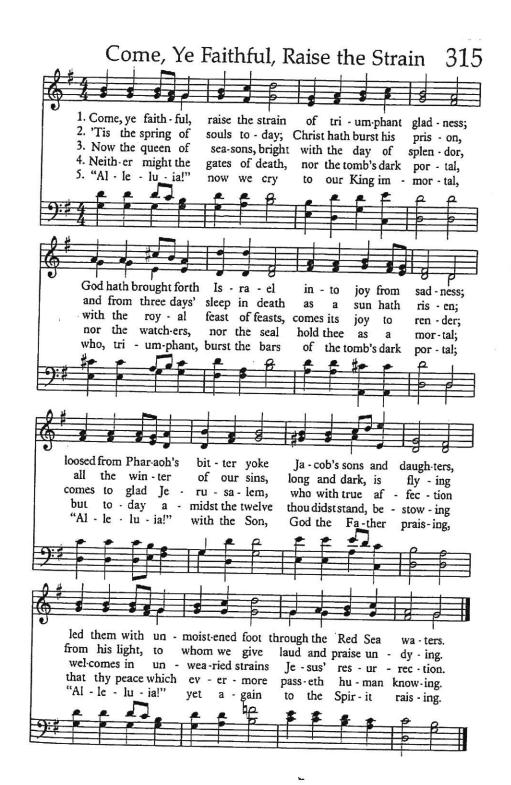
Leader: No matter how often the dawn heralds day's beginning with sounds and light, we always welcome the sense of newness that morning gives.

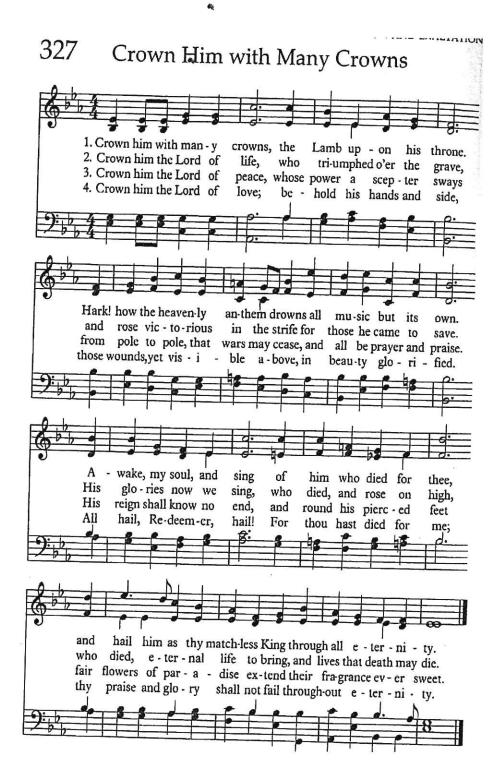
People: Thanks be to God! Christ is risen!

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.





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