**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

Resurrection Sunday

April 9, 2023



*“Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord;’ and she told them that he had said these things to her.”*

*(John 20:18)*

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**Resurrection Sunday**

**April 9, 2023**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Greeting/Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (*spoken responsively*)

L: He is risen!

**P: He is risen indeed!**

L: On Friday he was crucified as a thief

**P: On Sunday he woke as the King**

L: For three days in darkness, he slept

**P: In death he paid the wages of our sin**

L: But he woke as the first born of death

**P: The man Jesus Christ laid death in its grave**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “Rejoice, the Lord Is King” #276 (vv.1-4)

**Rejoice, the Lord is King**

**Your Lord and King adore**

**Rejoice, give thanks and sing**

**And triumph evermore**

**Lift up your heart**

**Lift up your voice, Rejoice**

**Again I say, rejoice**

**Jesus, the Savior, reigns**

**The God of truth and love**

**When He had purged our stains**

**He took his seat above**

**Lift up your heart**

**Lift up your voice, Rejoice**

**Again I say, rejoice**

**His kingdom cannot fail**

**He rules o'er earth and heav'n**

**The keys of death and hell**

**Are to our Jesus giv’n**

**Lift up your heart**

**Lift up your voice, Rejoice**

**Again I say, rejoice**

**Rejoice in glorious hope**

**Our Lord, the Judge, shall come**

**And take His servants up**

**To their eternal home**

**Lift up your heart**

**Lift up your voice, Rejoice**

**Again I say, rejoice**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: Almighty God, who through the only-begotten Son Jesus Christ has overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord’s resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit. By being renewed both in body and mind, we may worship you in sincerity and truth. May we live with the knowledge that death is destroyed, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples…

**P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father​**

**And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.​**

**As it was in the beginning​**

**Is now and ever shall be.​**

**World without end. ​**

**Amen. Amen.​**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**Hymn:** “Christ Arose” #258 (vv.1-3)

**Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,**

**Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!**

**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 Savior,**

**Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!**

**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**

**Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;**

**He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!**

**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**

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

 The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Affirmation of Faith:** Jeremiah 31:1-6

**P:** **At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: “Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.”**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Gospel Lesson**: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed 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.”

 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

 Then the other disciple, who 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 returned to their homes.

 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”

She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?”

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

**Sermon**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Hymn of Response:** Christ the Lord is Risen Today” #260 (vv.1-4)

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!**

**Sons of men and angels 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 did save, Alleluia!**

**Where's 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!**

**Invitation of Offering**

L: The Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs, heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Give as Christ gave, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**

**\*Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn**: “Thine is the Glory” #264 (vv.1-3)

**Thine be 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**

**Thine be 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 the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing**

**For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting**

**Thine be the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son**

**Endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won**

**No more we doubt Thee, Prince of Life**

**Life is naught without Thee, aid us in our strife**

**Make us more than conqu’rors, thro’ Thy deathless love**

**Bring us safely thro’ Jordan, to Thy home above**

**Thine be the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son**

**Endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won**

**\*Benediction**

L: May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the God and Father, who has called us to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.