

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Reflection: "Leaving the Tomb."

Hymn: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#157

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah!**
all creation join to say; Hallelujah!
raise your joys and triumphs high; Hallelujah!
sing, O heavens, and earth reply: Hallelujah!
- 2 Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah!**
fought the fight, the battle won. Hallelujah!
Lo, our sun's eclipse is o'er! Hallelujah!
Lo, he dwells in death no more! Hallelujah!
- 3 Lives again our glorious King: Hallelujah!**
where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah!
Once he died, our souls to save: Hallelujah!
where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!
- 4 Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven, Hallelujah!**
praise to you by both be given! Hallelujah!
Every knee to you shall bow, Hallelujah!
risen Christ, triumphant now. Hallelujah!

Gathering Prayer:

Holy One, we come in wonder, in awe and in expectation. Though we have heard Easter's message many times before, may the good news of your life-restoring love in Christ thrill us anew. May we be transformed by the excitement of your presence among us this day, that, like Mary leaving the tomb, we might be strengthened to share our faith with others in words of hope and acts of compassion. We pray this in the name of the risen and living Christ. Amen.

The Life and Ministry of Our Church

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

Message: "Leaving Our Tombs."

Musical Offering:

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Call to Prayer: (Playing the Koshi Chimes)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Healing and Transformation:

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, the power and the glory, forever, and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Offer Our Gifts

Song of Dedication: (vs. 1) #537
Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

O God, Jesus embodied your love and through your love Jesus healed, fed and comforted your people. May the gifts we offer also embody your love so that through them we may continue to heal, feed and comfort your people, as Jesus did. Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

Hymn: "Joy Comes With The Dawn"

#166

**Chorus: Joy comes with the dawn;
joy comes with the morning sun;
joy springs from the tomb
and scatters the night with her song,
joy comes with the dawn.**

**1 Weeping may come;
weeping may come in the night,
when dark shadows cloud our sight.**

**2 Sorrow will turn,
sorrow will turn into song,
and God's laughter make us strong.**

**3 We will rejoice,
we will rejoice, and give praise,
to the One who brings us grace.**

Commissioning and Blessing

Music To Inspire Us As We Go:

STITTSVILLE UNITED CHURCH



(Photo - "The Garden Tomb" - By Rev. Grant Dillenbeck)

**Easter
April 4, 2021**