

# Worshiping Jesus Christ, Risen from the Dead!

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APRIL 16, 2017  
6:30 AM

**\*GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Reverend Scott Kerens

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**\*HYMN OF AWAKENING** *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

**When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**When sleep her balm denies, my silent spirit sighs:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**When evil thoughts molest, with this I shield my breast:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**In heav'n's eternal bliss the loveliest strain is this:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**The pow'rs of darkness fear, when this sweet chant they hear:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Let air and sea and sky, from depth to height, reply:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Be this th'eternal song, through all the ages on:**

**May Jesus Christ be praised.**

**INVOCATION**

**CONFESSION OF SIN** 1 Timothy 1:12-13

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief.

**WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** 1 Timothy 1:15-17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**\*HYMN OF SALVATION** *Up from the Grave He Arose*

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

**Waiting the coming day – Jesus, my Lord. (Chorus)**

*Chorus:*

**Up from the grave he arose (He arose!)**

**With a mighty triumph o'er his foes. (He arose!)**

**He arose a victor from the dark domain,**

**And he lives forever with his saints to reign.**

**He arose! (He arose!) He arose! (He arose!)**

**Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Vainly they watch his bed – Jesus, Savior;**

**Vainly they seal the dead – Jesus, my Lord. (Chorus)**

**Death cannot keep his prey – Jesus, my Savior;**

**He tore the bars away – Jesus, my Lord. (Chorus)**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 1 Corinthians 15:12-58

Leader 1: Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

People: **But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.**

Leader 2: Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? Why are we in danger every hour? I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

Leader 1: But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

People: **So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.**

Leader 2: Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

People: **I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Leader 1: Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

**HYMN OF RESURRECTION** *Christ the LORD Is Risen Today!*

**“Christ the Lord is ris’n today;” Alleluia!**  
**Sons of men and angels say; Alleluia!**  
**Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!**  
**Sing ye heav’ns, and earth, reply. Alleluia!**

**Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!**  
**Christ has burst the gates of hell; Alleluia!**  
**Death in vain forbids his rise; Alleluia!**  
**Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!**  
**Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!**  
**Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!**  
**Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

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

**Hail, the LORD of earth and heav’n! Alleluia!**  
**Praise to thee by both be giv’n; Alleluia!**  
**Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia!**  
**Hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!**

**GOD PROCLAIMS HIS WORD**

Reverend Bill Myers

**SERMON TITLE** *A Trustworthy Saying*

**SCRIPTURE TEXT** 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;  
if we endure, we will also reign with him;  
if we deny him, he also will deny us;  
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—  
for he cannot deny himself.

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** *In Christ Alone*

In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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**BENEDICTION** Romans 16:25-27

## Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church

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**Reverend Bill Myers, Associate Pastor**

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