

First Service of Easter

Order of Worship

March 23, 2008

*(*Stand, as you are able)*

Greeting

*Call to Worship

L: Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: Rejoice, heavenly powers!

Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God's throne!

Jesus Christ, our King is risen!

Sound the trumpet of salvation!

**P: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor,
radiant in the brightness of our King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes forever!**

**All: Rejoice, O Holy Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Savior shines upon you!**

**Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!**

*Hymn 302 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Prayer

Almighty God,

**through your only Son you overcame death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life.**

**Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection,
by the renewing of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life
of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Word Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea Exodus 14:10 31; 15:20-21

*Hymn 315 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

God our Savior, as once you delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen Israel through the waters of the sea, so now deliver your Church and all the peoples of the earth from bondage and oppression, to rejoice and serve you in freedom, through Jesus Christ our Deliverer. Amen

The Word Salvation Offered Freely to All Isaiah 55:1-11

Creator of all things, you freely offer water to the thirsty and food to the hungry. Refresh us by the water of baptism and feed us with the bread and wine of your table, that your Word may bear fruit in our lives, and bring us all to your heavenly banquet; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Word Buried and Raised with Christ in Baptism Romans 6:3-11

*Hymn 311 Now the Green Blade Riseth

The Gospel Jesus is Raised Matthew 28:1-10

The Witness Ted Lillie, Megan Griffin, Will McCurry

The Offering

The Service of the Bread and Cup Rev. Adam Snell

L: Beloved in Christ!

People shall be gathered from north and south,
from east and west to feast at the heavenly banquet of the Lord.
Christ our Paschal Lamb has been sacrificed.

Let us therefore celebrate the feast. Alleluia!

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of power and majesty:

**With the rising of the sun you have raised Jesus Christ
and delivered him and us from death's destruction.**

We praise you on this bright day for all your gifts of new life.

**Especially we thank you for all victories over sin and evil in our lives, for loyalty and
love of friends and family, for the newborn, the newly baptized, and those now in
your eternal home, for the renewal of nature, and for the continuing witness of
the church of Christ.**

Amen.

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

L: You have given yourself to us, Lord.

P: Now we give ourselves to others.

L: You have raised us with Christ, and made us a new people;

P: As a people of the resurrection, we will serve you with joy.

L: Your glory has filled our hearts;

P: Help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.

*Hymn of Victory 322

Up From the Grave He Arose

Dismissal with Blessing

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

P: We are sent in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia!

Greeter: Jordan McEwen
Ushers: Leigh Harwood, Bobby Hewitt and James Lillie
Liturgists: Lauren Beck, Tim Higgins and Marjorie McCurry
Witnesses: Ted Lillie, Megan Griffin and Will McCurry
Pianist: Mrs. Bobbie Walker
Song Leader: Rev. Rick Buckingham
Officiant: Rev. Adam Snell

Rev. Adam B. Snell, Pastor

absnell@verizon.net

Rev. John C. Walker, Visitation Pastor

friartuck4@verizon.net

Rev. Richard L. Buckingham, Deacon/Minister of Education & Youth

Mrs. Jen Green, Youth Ministry Assistant

Mrs. Mandi Mader, Pastoral Counselor

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, Director of Music

Mr. Marvin Mills, Pianist

Baltimore-Washington Conference

District Superintendent Vivian McCarthy

Bishop John R. Schol

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

10401 Armory Ave., Kensington, Maryland 20895

Christ
Is Risen!
Alleluia!

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7:30 AM