



Wandering  
Heart   
"And I hope"

## Easter Morning

I cannot stay away on Easter Morning.  
Like Peter,  
I would run if I could.  
Stop the car,  
pump my arms,  
take the church steps two at a time,  
all to know—  
Did it happen?  
Did it *really* happen?  
Is evil no match for love?  
I'd slide down the center aisle.  
I'd grab the mic to ask  
the angels,  
the heavens,  
the children,  
*Were the stories true?*

And in response, the choir would sing, "*Alleluia.*"  
The children would flower the cross.  
The preacher would tell me the stone was rolled away.  
The people would pass the peace,  
and welcome strangers,  
and make room in the pews.  
And with faith over doubt,  
I would hope.  
For I imagine that all of that ordinary holiness  
would be enough for Peter,  
and it would be enough for me.

—Rev. Sarah Speed

*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones,  
where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love  
by word and deed to all people.*

*Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6*

# The Worship of God

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

## Easter Prelude

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

GBC Handbell Choir

OLIVET;  
by Lowell Mason arr. Lloyd Larson

“The Holy City”

Pam Weis and Sandra Hunt

by Stephen Adams arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

“Blessed Assurance”

Dennis Beckwith and Christian McIvor

ASSURANCE; by Fanny Crosby  
arr. Dennis Beckwith

“Wandering Hearts”

Christian McIvor, Heather Choplin, Cathy Perkinson,  
Michael-David Rowe, Dennis Beckwith, David Cross, Pam Weis

by Christian McIvor  
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“Lift High the Cross”

GBC Handbell Choir

CRUCIFER;  
by Sidney H. Nicholson  
arr. Lloyd Larson

## Easter Proclamation

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

## Welcome

## † Call to Worship

Christian McIvor

One: Yesterday we thought death had won.  
Yesterday we thought all was lost.  
Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

**All: But not today.  
Today we know that love has won.  
Today we know that hope is real.  
Today we know that Christ is here.**

One: We have a reason to hope.

**All: We have a reason to sing!**

One: Alleluia!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Christ is risen today.

† *Please rise in body or spirit.*

## Sung Response

“Alleluia”

HONDURAS ALLELUIA;  
Traditional Liturgical Text, Honduran Melody

One: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Now the Lord is risen indeed!

**All: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia! Now the Lord is risen indeed!**  
*All repeat ad lib...*

## † Processional Hymn 360 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!**  
**Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!**  
**Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!**  
**Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise, then, let us sing, Alleluia!**  
**Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!**  
**Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!**  
**Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!**  
**Praise eternal as His love: Alleluia!**  
**Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!**  
**Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!**

*During the last stanza of our Processional Hymn,  
all children are invited to come forward for today's children's sermon.*

## Children's Sermon

April Alston

## † Centering Song “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

HYMN TO JOY;  
Words by Robert Robinson (alt.),  
Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

**Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious love.**

## Call to Confession

Anna Beth Cross

## Prayer of Confession

The stone is rolled away!

**We assume it is a mistake.**

The angels say, "He is not here!"

**We assume their news is fake.**

The women tell the story,

**but we do not want to hear it.**

Peter runs to the tomb,

**but we do not understand.**

Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb  
is nothing more than a prank.

**Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths  
and still holding tight to death.**

Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope  
when you are alive and well in the world.

**Teach us to see what you see.**

Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

**Amen.**

## Words of Forgiveness

### Offertory Anthem

"Thine Be the Glory"  
GBC Choir

by George Frideric Handel,  
arr. J. Marty Cope

### † Easter Doxology

"Let Trumpets Sound and Voices Sing!"

LAMB OF GOD;  
Words by John Banner,  
Music by Twila Paris

**Let trumpets sound and voices sing!  
Let all on earth their praises bring!  
For Christ has conquered sin and death  
And given life eternal breath.**

### Prayer of Dedication

Steve Rose

### Scripture Reading

Luke 24:1-12

Sylvia Cash

### Sermon

"And I Hope"

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

### Invitation

† Hymn of Response 357

“Christ Arose”

**Low in the grave He lay— Jesus, my Savior!  
Waiting the coming day— Jesus, my Lord!**

**Refrain:**

**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!**

**(Refrain)**

**Death cannot keep his prey— Jesus, my Savior!  
He tore the bars away— Jesus, my Lord!**

**(Refrain)**

**Benediction**

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† Sending Song

“Wandering Hearts”

NETTLETON;

Words by Christian McIvor,

Music from *Wyeth’s Repository of Music*, Part Second

On this road we walk together, through the bends, the twists and turns,  
Let us to your love be tethered by a faith that for you burns.  
In the valley, on the mountain, in the water and the wind;  
Lord, your mercy, like a fountain, flows for us from deep within.

All our flaws and imperfections, our whole selves, Lord, you embrace.  
As our paths lead all directions, tune our hearts to sing your grace.  
As the planets go on spinning, we will learn with each new day;  
You’re in every new beginning and in you, we find our way.

As our story keeps unfolding, for your justice we will speak.  
Onto you, Lord, we are holding and your kin-dom we will seek.  
On this journey, we’ll live into who you’re calling us to be;  
Every high and low we’re shaped through, bind our wandering hearts to thee.

**Postlude**

“‘Hornpipe’ from *Water Music*”  
Christian McIvor and Pam Weis

by George Frideric Handel  
arr. John Head  
and Sue Mitchell-Wallace

## **Greystone Staff**

Chrissy Tatum Williamson, Senior Pastor  
April Alston, Associate Minister, Children and Preschool  
Anna Beth Cross, Associate Minister, Students and Digital Discipleship  
Christian McIvor, Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts  
Pam Phillips, Weekday Preschool Director  
Steve Rose, Property Manager  
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