

ENTRANCE PRAYER: O God of life and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Your abundant grace, You have begotten us again to a new and living expectation in the proclamation of the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. You have transformed the night of doubt and sorrow into the new and eternal day of joy and gladness. You have brought life and immortality to light by the glad tidings that Christ is risen. For this, O Lord, we give You thanks. O God, we praise You that through Him You removed from us death's sting. Fill our hearts with the joy of His Resurrection, and let us live only for Jesus. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

WE HAVE COME TO THE PREMIERE EVENT IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH; EASTER! The event of Easter is so significant that the church changed the day of worship. The event of Jesus coming out of the tomb, fulfilled the prophecy of "The Day of the Lord," from the Old Testament. The event of Easter is so completely important that we often refer to Sunday as, the Day of the Lord out of respect for Christ's accomplishment of our salvation. If you joined us today because you do not have a church home, we invite you to join with us every Sunday as we celebrate the Day of the Lord, on the day of the new Sabbath for the new Earth.

THEME OF THE DAY:
Christ Is Risen

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Exodus 15:1b;) Psalm 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18
Exodus 15:1-18 is the song Moses sang after the Egyptian army was drowned in the Red Sea. A complete victory had been accomplished by God for His chosen people. The connection to the other lessons is in the complete victory accomplished by God over sin, death and Satan, accomplished in the blood of Jesus.

COLLECT

The difficulty of our personal darkness that descended on us on Good Friday, has been lifted by the wonder of the Resurrection of our Lord. Now we ask that the Lord's Resurrection would be kept real in our life through the work of the Holy Spirit.

FIRST LESSON—Acts 10:34-43

This appears to be an abstract of a much longer sermon (see verse 44.) The whole perspective of this sermon is important to us, because not many of us can prove that we are in the physical line of Abraham and therefore we are Gentiles by birth. Peter proclaimed that the death and Resurrection of Jesus is of benefit to whoever believes in Him.

GRADUAL—Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7, Psalm 8:6

This is a compilation of Scripture. It is a statement of the Resurrection followed by the glory and honor given to Christ by our Father.

EPISTLE LESSON—Colossians 3:1-4

Paul exhorts us to set our hearts on Heaven and take away our affection from this world. To seek heavenly things is to set our affections on them, to love them and let our desires be towards them. We must acquaint ourselves with the heavenly things, esteem them above all other things, and lay out ourselves in preparation for the enjoyment of them. Things on Earth are in opposition to things above. We are dead to present things. We are buried with Christ, and buried to sin in the likeness of His death. Our true life lies in the other world, where, when Christ, who is our life, appears, we shall also appear with Him in glory.

GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 28:1-10

We have so much information in 10 verses that we could fill this entire space with an exposition of each verse. As proof of Christ's Resurrection, we are given the testimony of the angels and of Jesus. (But: Why weren't the women or the Apostles allowed to see the stone rolled away by the angel? Why was it only the guards? There are so many things God did without witnesses (the creation of the world, the incarnation of Jesus) that we can only accede to His wisdom.) The angels witnessed the Birth and