



Preparation for Worship

Easter doesn't have the ring of great drama. It has the ring of truth. If the Gospel writers had wanted to tell it in a way to convince the world that Jesus indeed rose from the dead, they would presumably have done it with all the skill and fanfare they could muster. Here there is no skill, no fanfare. They seem to be telling it simply the way it was. The narrative is as fragmented, shadowy, and incomplete as life itself. When it comes to just what happened, there can be no certainty. That something unimaginable happened, there can be no doubt.

The symbol of Easter is the empty tomb. You can't depict or domesticate emptiness. You can't make it into pageants and string it with lights. It doesn't move people to give presents to each other or sing old songs. It ebbs and flows all around us, the Eastertide. Even the great choruses of Handel's *Messiah* sound a little like a handful of crickets chirping under the moon.

(Cont.)

He rose. A few saw him briefly and talked to him. If it is true, there is nothing left to say. If it is not true, there is nothing left to say. For believers and unbelievers both, life has never been the same again. For some, neither has death. What is left now is the emptiness. There are those who, like Magdalene, will never stop searching it till they find his face.

--*Fredrick Buechner*

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

† Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Joyful Ringers

Celebration

Gramman

Call to Worship

Leader: Where voices are silent, and hurt and emptiness seem to hold sway,

People: Wherever footsteps stumble, hearts are heavy, and our lives ache for renewal,

Leader: Where hopes falter and praises fall mute, Easter's message breaks forth:

People: Christ the Lord is risen! Sin and death are defeated!

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen! The tomb's word is not the last word!
If every voice were silenced, even the stones would shout aloud:
Christ the Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

† Hymn #232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

† Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Merciful God, forgive us for the times when our faith does not rise to the joyous promise of Easter's empty tomb. Forgive us for thinking that our relationships are beyond repair, our faith beyond recovery, our hearts and our habits beyond restoration. Because we can trust this truth: that Easter's empty tomb shows just how far you will go to claim us as your own and that no place we find ourselves is beyond your reach. Bless and restore us by your grace and power, calling and empowering us to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

† Please stand if you are able.

† Assurance of Forgiveness

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting unto everlasting.
As far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our
transgression from us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.
People: Thanks be to God.

We Proclaim God's Word

Anthem *Resurrection Victory* Larson
Chancel Choir and Brass

Children's Message

Hymn #238 *Thine Is the Glory*

Gospel Lesson Mark 16:1-8

Sermon *Then a Miracle Occurs...* Rev. Dr. Ben Trawick

We Respond to God's Word

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *In the Garden* Miles/Dobrinski
Joyful Ringers

† Response #609 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† Prayer of Dedication David Buckley

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Depart To Serve God

† Parting Hymn #249 *Because You Live, O Christ*

† Benediction

Postlude *Hallelujah Chorus* Handel
Chancel Choir, Joyful Ringers, Brass, and Congregation

*Our thanks to Guest Instrumentalists: Trumpets - Andrew Sharrock,
Luis Perez, Laura Seifried; Horn - Jackie Owen; Euphonium - Ted Fredrick;
Tuba - Andrew Loft; Percussion - Ian Loft*

Your Greeters today were Alem Bryant and Judy Smith.

EASTER LILY

Dedications



<i>Donor</i>	<i>Dedication</i>
<i>Bob McClelland</i>	<i>In Memory of Elizabeth</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>In Memory of George Towery</i>
<i>Donna Lucas</i>	<i>In Honor of Family</i>
<i>Jennifer Neel</i>	<i>In Memory of Dorothy Spiess</i>
<i>Gene Williams</i>	<i>In Memory of Jan Williams</i>
<i>Valerie Wenderoth</i>	<i>To the Glory of God</i>
<i>Joe and Greta Miller</i>	<i>In Memory of Parents</i>
<i>Virginia Bouchard</i>	<i>To the Risen Lord</i>
<i>David Buckley</i>	<i>In Memory of Robert Buckley</i>
<i>Janice Buckley</i>	<i>In Memory of Delores Howard</i>
<i>David and Janice Buckley</i>	<i>In Memory of Chris Thurman</i>

EASTER LILY

Dedications



<i>Donor</i>	<i>Dedication</i>
<i>Stewart and JoAnn Holmes</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of Andrew Holmes</i>
<i>Natalie and Nelson Thurman</i>	<i>In Memory of Chris Thurman</i>
<i>Vivian Martin</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of Allen Edward "Ike" Martin, My Husband, Greg and Cherylen's Father, Tom's Father-in-Law, and Sean's Grandfather</i>
<i>Jan, Fred, Lynn, Christian, Cameron, and Wesley</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of Frances T. Kurtz from her Children and Grandchildren</i>
<i>Cheri Weaver and Family</i>	<i>In Memory of Malcolm Weaver</i>
<i>Jan, Fred, Lynn, Christian, Cameron, and Wesley</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of Frederick C. Kurtz from his Children and Grandchildren</i>
<i>Amy and Ben Trawick</i>	<i>In Memory of Brooks Sink, Gayle Tate Sink, and Jack Trawick</i>

EASTER LILY

Dedications



<i>Donor</i>	<i>Dedication</i>
<i>Pat Ferrell</i>	<i>In Memory of Alan Ferrell</i>
<i>Kim and Shane Hatfield</i>	<i>In Memory of Bob Beckham</i>
<i>Scott and Laura Peterson</i>	<i>In Memory of Scott's Parents, Phil and Dolores Peterson</i>
<i>Scott and Laura Peterson</i>	<i>In Memory of Laura's Parents, Don and Joyce Hillmer</i>
<i>Bob and Valerie Patrick</i>	<i>In Honor of Our Family</i>
<i>Penny Newsome</i>	<i>With Gratefulness for God's Greatest Gift</i>
<i>Maria and Warren Clayton</i>	<i>In Honor of Grace Weekday Preschool Staff</i>
<i>The Machado Family</i>	<i>In Memory of Jeanette Whitney and Juan Machado</i>
<i>Glenda Etchison</i>	<i>In Honor of Grace Family</i>
<i>Circle 6</i>	<i>In Memory of Jean Ackor</i>
<i>Mike and Jenell Phillips</i>	<i>To the Glory of God</i>



WE ARE VERY GLAD YOU CHOSE TO WORSHIP WITH US ON THIS EASTER SUNDAY! PLEASE SIGN OUR FRIENDSHIP REGISTER SO THAT WE CAN GREET YOU BY NAME AND CALL ON YOU IF YOU WISH. PRAYER REQUESTS ARE WELCOMED. YOU WILL FIND A PRAYER CARD IN THE PEW POCKET THAT YOU CAN FILL OUT AND DROP IN THE OFFERING PLATE.

OUR SUNDAY SERVICES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL WELCOME EVERYONE!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOMED IN WORSHIP - ...Even if they fidget!

Worship Bags are available for young children, with a children's bulletin, books, and crayons, and a Nursery is available downstairs in Room 5 for infants through 4-year-olds.

After the Children's Message, children have their own worship experience downstairs. *Play 'n' Worship* is for preschoolers, and *Bridges to Worship* is for K-3rd graders. *Bridges to Worship* children remain in the Sanctuary when communion is served and on Easter. Parents are asked to pick up children before going to Fellowship: K-3rd graders will be in the Bridges Room (Room 14), and all other children will be in the Nursery (Room 5).

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Classes are offered at 9:15 a.m. from the 2nd Sunday in September through the 3rd Sunday in May. Children's Discipleship provides classes for 5-year-olds through 12th graders, and Adult Discipleship reaches all adults after high school.

GRACE INSIGHTS - Learn more about Grace Church, our mission, and our denomination, PC(USA), in groups that form throughout the year. If you are considering membership or if you have interest in learning more about us, please speak to one of our pastors or Elder Valerie Wenderoth. You will find Grace a very welcoming place.

EVENTS AT GRACE - Please see the announcements in the Narthex and in the hallway to see how you can get involved.

PLEASE ASK ANYONE FOR HELP OR DIRECTIONS!

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**7434 BATH STREET
SPRINGFIELD
VIRGINIA
22150**

703-451-2900

**WEBSITE: WWW.GRACEPRESBY.ORG
FB: Grace Presbyterian, Springfield, Va.**

PASTORS

REV. DR. BEN TRAWICK

**703-451-2900 ext. 2
ben@gracepresby.org**

REV. KATIE MURCHISON ROSS

**703-451-2900 ext. 3
katie@gracepresby.org**

OFFICE HOURS

MON-FRI 9:00-4:30

THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

TO ACCESS THE ONLINE MEMBER DIRECTORY:

**SEARCH FOR THE "INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY" APP
ENTER YOUR E-MAIL AND THIS PASSWORD: 7434Bath
(YOU MUST BE LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY.)**

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET

