

The background of the entire poster is a vibrant yellow, overlaid with a detailed line-art illustration of several lilies. The lilies are depicted in various stages of bloom, with long, slender petals and prominent stamens. The lines are fine and consistent, creating a delicate, etched appearance. The lilies are scattered across the frame, with some in sharp focus and others slightly blurred, giving a sense of depth. The overall effect is a warm, spring-like aesthetic.

EASTER SUNDAY

# SUNRISE SERVICE

April 4, 2021

*Memphis Botanic Garden*



## WELCOME TO EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Today we celebrate our Lord's resurrection from the dead. A belief in Jesus' resurrection is waning even among those who profess to be Christians. So you might ask: Why is it that we believe in His bodily resurrection?**

**Here are four reasons:**

- **The Prophetic Scriptures:** The historical event of Jesus' resurrection occurred to fulfill the promises of the Old Testament Scriptures. A Jewish man who knew the Old Testament well and who initially hated Jesus and persecuted Christians wrote: Jesus "was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures" (I Corinthians 15:4). Some of these Old Testament verses would include Psalm 16:10 and Isaiah 53:10.
- **The Empty Tomb:** We can identify the tombs of the founders of other religions. However, the angel's wonderful words to the women at Jesus' tomb have reverberated down through the centuries: "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead" (Matthew 28:6-7a).
- **The Eyewitnesses:** There are many eyewitnesses who validate the historical event of Jesus' resurrection. We know that over 500 people saw Jesus in His resurrected body.
- **Transformed Lives:** The last reason we believe in the resurrection is the transformed lives of Christ's followers through the centuries. Violent persecutors like Saul became fervent preachers of the Gospel. Those who were naturally cowards became bold as lions as they willingly died a martyr's death for Christ.

What difference should the resurrection of Jesus Christ make in our lives?

First of all, the resurrection of Jesus Christ revolutionizes how we view death. Many people live in denial of their own mortality. In fact, Sigmund Freud said, "Death is a 'painful riddle... for which no remedy at all has yet been found, nor probably ever will be.'" For those who trust in Jesus, death is no longer a final, fatal and painful riddle. II Corinthians 4:14 says, "knowing that He (God) who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence." Death is not the end for a follower of Jesus.

Secondly, the resurrection of Jesus Christ revolutionizes our reason for living. We no longer fear a life of futility. We no longer live strictly for ourselves. We live for Him who died and rose again on our behalf (II Corinthians 5:15).

Leo Tolstoy posited a question that almost brought him to the brink of suicide. He asked, "What will come of what I do today or tomorrow? What will come of my entire life? Is there any meaning in my life that will not be annihilated by the inevitability of death which awaits me?"

The resurrection of Jesus Christ proves that there is a purpose for your life that death cannot destroy. Through simply receiving Jesus Christ as Your crucified and resurrected Savior, you will enjoy a life-giving relationship with the God who made you and who was willing to pay an incredible price to rescue you from peril and to bring you into His presence to live forever and ever.

This is why we celebrate Easter!

# CHRIST IS RISEN!

EASTER INTROIT: "Were You There?" ..... Spiritual

*Words and Music: African-American Spiritual*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble.  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?  
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?  
Oh, sometimes I feel like shouting, "Glory!"  
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Brandon Terry

✠HYMN: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" ..... EASTER HYMN

*Words: Charles Wesley / Music: Lyra Davidica; arr. S. Drummond Wolff / I Corinthians 15:57*

**"Christ the Lord is risen 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!**

✠INVOCATION

✦RESURRECTION LITANY

We glory in Your cross, O Lord,  
and praise and glorify Your holy Name;  
by virtue of Your resurrection, joy has come to the whole world.

**May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of His countenance, and come to us.**

Let Your ways be known upon the earth,  
Your Gospel among the nations.

**Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
let all the peoples praise You.  
We glory in Your cross, O Lord,  
and praise and glorify Your Holy Name;  
for, by virtue of Your resurrection,  
joy has come to the whole world.**

✦HYMN: "In Christ Alone" ..... Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

*Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend / Philippians 3:8-9*

**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 power of Christ I'll stand.**

GOSPEL LESSON ..... John 21:1-19

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore,

full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY: Why Are We Here? ..... Todd Erickson

✦HYMN: "Alleluia, Alleluia!" ..... ODE TO JOY

*Words: Christopher Woodsworth / Music: Ludwig van Beethoven / I Corinthians 15:20*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise:  
He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.**

**Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born,  
Glorious life, and life immortal, on the holy Easter morn.  
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by His mighty enterprise;  
We with Him to life eternal by His resurrection rise.**

**Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits of the holy harvest field,  
Which will all its full abundance at His second coming yield:  
Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before Him wave,  
Ripened by His glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;  
Alleluia to the Savior, who has won the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.  
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.**

✦BENEDICTION

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

*Christy Young and Valetta Brinson, soloists  
Alex Schuettrumpf and Brittany Hendricks, trumpet; Samuel Metzger, organ*

### Second Presbyterian Church

This service is hosted by Second Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Poplar and Goodlett. We invite you to contact one of the pastors listed in the box below to find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community.

We gather for worship on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11:00 and again on Sunday evenings at 6:00 for prayer, praise, and teaching from God's Word. We invite you to worship with us in the Sanctuary. Live streaming of all worship services is also available at [2pc.org/live](https://2pc.org/live).

For more information, visit our website at [2pc.org](https://2pc.org) or call (901) 454-0034. Also, follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @2pcmemphis.

### Getting Connected at Second

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, or for help with specific concerns, you may contact a member of our pastoral team listed below by emailing [firstname.lastname@2pc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@2pc.org) or calling (901) 454-0034.

David Bowen, *Pastor to Senior Adults*  
Dan Burns, *Pastor of World Missions*  
Todd Erickson, *Pastoral Executive*  
Barton Kimbro, *Pastor to Young Adults*  
Brett Powell, *Pastoral Resident*

Josh Preston, *Pastoral Resident*  
George Robertson, *Senior Pastor*  
Brandon Terry, *Pastor to Young Adults*  
Mary Hannah, *Director of Women in Ministry*  
Brett Wynne, *Pastor to Young Adults*

## Sermon Notes

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