

CELEBRATING THE SABBATH
Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020 at 10 o'clock



The crowning evidence that Jesus was alive was not a vacant grave, but a spirit filled fellowship.
Not a rolled away stone, but a carried away church.

Clarence Jordan



PRELUDE

The Heavens Declare Thy Glory
Charles Goodwin, Cornet

Benedetto Marcello

SHARING OUR WELCOME VIRTUALLY

WE COME TO WORSHIP

FIRST CHURCH FAMILY RECORDED EASTER GREETINGS

Alleluia!

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Alleluia!

HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

[Click here to see hymn](#)

Join as you are able!

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! All creation, join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

We rejoice this morning, that despite our distance on the events of Jesus' life, and our distance from one another now, that you have raised Jesus Christ from the dead. New life blossoms where dead hopes were buried. You have made a way for us out of no way. Today the world is made new. This morning we praise you and glorify your name -- where we are. Be known among us in the mystery of resurrection; through Jesus our crucified and risen Savior we pray. Amen.

SELECTION *The Hallelujah Chorus* George F. Handel
First Church Virtual Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:1-18 Wendy Wigglesworth

SERMON *Easter's Evidence* Erica Avena

A TIME OF PRAYER

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Christ lag in Todesbanden* Friedrich Zachau
("Christ Lay in Death's Dark Tomb")

Doxology, Words: Hymnal, No. 47; Tune: Hymnal, No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN *Thine is the Glory* [Click here to see hymn](#)
Join as you are able!

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

refrain: Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son, endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Toccata, from the Fifth Organ Symphony* Charles M. Widor