

EASTER SUNRISE WORSHIP

March 31, 2024

Worship Focus

The Resurrection Story: Prophesied



Calvary Lutheran Church

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The Resurrection of Our Lord

Calvary Lutheran Church

In the Heart of Lake Highlands – Dallas, TX



The faithful last gathered for a Service of Darkness (Tenebrae). Darkness fell on the earth as God the Father executed his just punishment for the sins of the world on his Son. Creation groaned as its Creator suffered the “God forsaken-ness” of hell. Yet, in a move of utter simplicity and depth, the Light of the world declared “It is finished” and commended himself into the hands of his Father. The images of Light and Darkness, so powerful throughout Scripture, come especially alive in these last Three Days of Holy Week. The faithful eagerly anticipate the shattering of the Darkness by the Light who comes back to life. This is the message of Easter, proclaimed so powerfully at Sunrise! The Light has come! Darkness has been defeated! Christ is risen, he is risen, indeed!

With such powerful imagery, the church held a long-standing tradition of baptizing catechumens (those undergoing Christian instruction) at dawn of Easter morning. With darkness dispersing on one end of the earth and light dawning on the other, the catechumens would face the darkness and renounce the Devil, the prince of the dark world. Then, turning toward the light they would enter the waters and be baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. God, through water and his Word, had actually worked in their hearts what they confessed with their mouths - a complete turning from sin, death and the devil and a turning toward a new life in Christ. Throughout the Old Testament, God had foreshadowed this victory of the Light over Darkness in his great acts of deliverance, many of which used water, an additional foreshadowing of God’s work in baptism. In the New Testament, Paul’s words in Romans 6 make it clear that baptism gives us each a personal stake in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For this reason, Easter sunrise affords God’s people an excellent opportunity to review, renew and re-enunciate their baptismal confession.

Today’s Easter sunrise service seeks to incorporate these images. The resurrection of Christ is that alone which gives these images their truth and strength. Today, as the light of Christ shines in his triumphant victory over the grave, may we reflect that light as we live our baptismal confession.

God bless your worship.

ORDER OF SERVICE

SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Paschal Candle: a Sign of the Presence of the Risen Christ among Us

HYMN

442 – Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia

Please stand for the final verse



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Christ, who once for sin - ners bled, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ners' stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
now the first - born from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!



see the place where he was laid; Al - le - lu - ia!
"Christ is ris'n," to - day we cry; Al - le - lu - ia!
while, in strange and awe - full strife, Al - le - lu - ia!
throned in end - less might and pow'r, Al - le - lu - ia!



praise him for the ran - som paid. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met to - geth - er death and life. Al - le - lu - ia!
lives and reigns for - ev - er - more. Al - le - lu - ia!

RESPONSIVE VERSES AND PRAYER

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Brothers and sisters in Christ: On this joyous morning, we celebrate that our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life. We join with all of God's people in recalling and celebrating his victory over death, and our deliverance from the bondage of sin and darkness to everlasting light.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Eternal Lord of Life, through your Son you have given your people the brightness of your light. Kindle in us a holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness. **Amen.**

The light of Christ rises in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death.

Thanks be to God!

Be Seated

FESTIVAL HYMN OF LIGHT

470 (1) – Like the Golden Sun Ascending

1 Like the gold - en sun as - cend - ing, break - ing through the
gloom of night, on the earth its glo - ry spend - ing so that
dark - ness takes to flight, thus my Je - sus from the
grave and death's dis - mal, dread - ful cave rose tri -
um - phant Eas - ter morn - ing at the ear - ly pur - ple dawn - ing.

[Easter Sunrise – 4]

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending, the Alpha and the Omega. His are time and eternity; his are the glory and dominion, now and forever. By his wounds we are healed now and forever. Amen.

May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful Father, once we were darkness, but now we are light in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Bless abundantly all who joyfully celebrate this day in faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill them with your heavenly blessing in him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

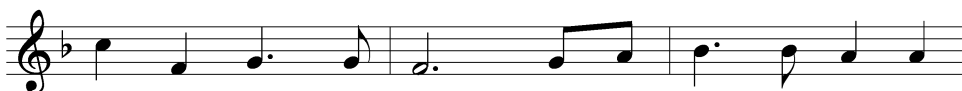
470 (2,4) – Like the Golden Sun Ascending



2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to you, O
4 For the joy your ad - vent gave me, for your gos - pel's



Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er o'er us, you have
great re - ward, for your bap - tism which has saved me, for your



con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause you did a -
sup - per and your Word; for your death, the bit - ter



rise and have o - pened par - a - dise! None can
scorn, for your res - ur - rec - tion morn: Lord, I



ful - ly sing the glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.
thank you and ex - tol you, and in heav'n I shall be - hold you.

EXSULTET (REJOICE)

Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

Rejoice, too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.

Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and your one and only Son, Jesus Christ. For he is the true Paschal Lamb who offered himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of his precious blood.

This is the day when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground.

This is the day when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality.

This is the day when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night.

Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave you gave your Son.

How holy is this day when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.

How holy is this day when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast.

How blessed is this day when man is reconciled to God in Christ.

Holy Father, accept now the morning sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise.

Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

461 – He Is Arisen! Glorious Word



He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled is



God, my Lord; the gates of heav'n are o - pen.



My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, and Sa - tan's ar - rows



bro - ken lie, de - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.



O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing glo - rious,



life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

SERVICE OF LESSONS

The Old Testament Foreshadows Our Deliverance and Rescue by Jesus

On this most holy day our Savior, Christ, the Lord, broke the power of death and by his resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for he truly keeps his word. The sun of righteousness has dawned on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

THE FLOOD

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-12; 8:13-18; 9:8-13

^{7:1}The LORD then said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. ²Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, ³and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. ⁴Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.”

⁵And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him...

¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, on the seventeenth day of the second month--on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.

¹²And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights...

^{8:13}By the first day of the first month of Noah’s six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. ¹⁴By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶“Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you--the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground--so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it.”

¹⁸So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. ¹⁹All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds--everything that moves on the earth--came out of the ark, one kind after another...

^{9:8}Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹“I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰and with every living creature that was with you--the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you--every living creature on earth. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

¹²And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

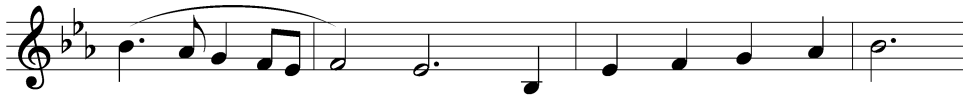
Let us pray. O Lord, whose wrath burned against the evil of humanity, you kill and bring again to life according to your own purpose; you brought the flood on a wicked and perverse generation and yet saved faithful Noah and his family. Gather your elect into your Church and so complete your work of mercy that the ends of the earth may know your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

HYMN RESPONSE

449 – This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide a - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill



has sprung to life this mor - row.
my pass - ing soul de - liv - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:10-31

^{14:10}As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. ¹¹They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Didn’t we say to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians’? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!”

¹³Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

¹⁵Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. ¹⁶Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. ¹⁸The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen.”

¹⁹Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel’s army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²²and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

²³The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. ²⁴During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. ²⁵He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, “Let’s get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.”

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.” ²⁷Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. ²⁸The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen--the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

²⁹But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ³⁰That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. ³¹And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

Let us pray. O God, you once delivered your people Israel from slavery under Pharaoh and led them safely through the Red Sea. By this you gave us a picture of our Baptism. Lead us always to rejoice in your baptismal promise that we may live in its grace and declare to all people your desire to make them children of Abraham; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN RESPONSE

462 (1,2) – Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 See the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,



God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en;



loosed from Phar - aoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.

FAITH STRAINED BUT VICTORIOUS

Job 19:20-27

² I am nothing but skin and bones; I have escaped with only the skin of my teeth.

²¹ "Have pity on me, my friends, have pity, for the hand of God has struck me.

²² Why do you pursue me as God does? Will you never get enough of my flesh?

²³ "Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll,

²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!

²⁵ I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God;

²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes--I, and not another.

How my heart yearns within me!

Let us pray. Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death to life. Give your servants patience and endurance that, looking in faith to your Son, we may see beyond the trials of this life to the joys of the life to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

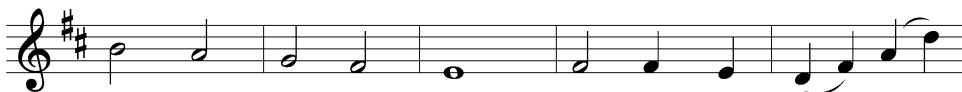
Stand

SONG OF PRAISE

441 (1,2,5,8) – I Know that My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
8 He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
Je - sus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.
sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Be seated

SERMON

Mark 16:1-8

I Told You So!

ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of these ways:

- Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
- On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>
- Scan the QR code to the right...



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.

RESPONSE

447 (Refrain) – Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -
lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:
"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." *(Fine)*
v. 3/v. 5

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Remembrance Our Baptismal Connection To Christ

On this holiest of days the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls his death and burial, rejoicing in the gospel of his glorious resurrection from the dead. Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul says: "Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Stand

In Holy Baptism God takes away our sins and gives new life in Christ, our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Will you continue steadfast in this baptismal faith and, as a member of the Church, be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

Amen.

Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE

456 (1,8,9) – O Sons and Daughters of the King



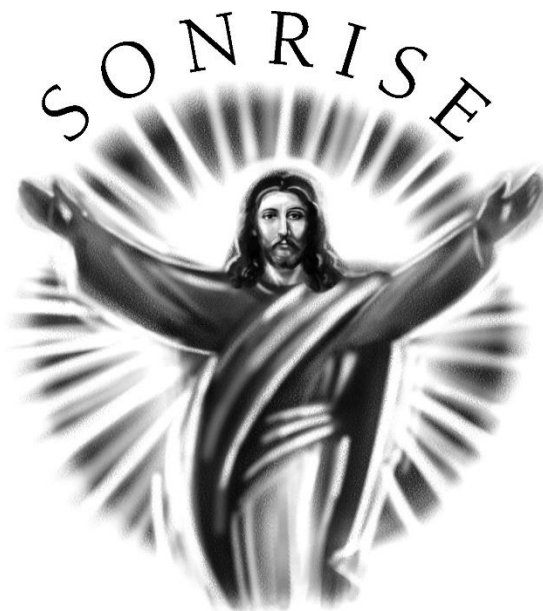
1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, whom heav'n - ly
8 Bless - ed are they that have not seen and yet whose
9 On this most ho - ly day of days to God your



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!
faith has con - stant been; in life e - ter - nal they shall reign.
hearts and voic - es raise in laud and ju - bi - lee and praise.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Hymn 442 – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

Text: Latin, 11th cent., attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050, abr.; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807-1882, alt.

Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781-1821; setting: John Roberts, 1822-1877

Scripture references: Mt 28:6; Ro 6:9; Ro 5:10,11; Col 1:18
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 470 – Like the Golden Sun Ascending

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703, abr.; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.

Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667

Scripture references: 1 Co 15:1-5, 55-57; Lk 21:28; 1 Th 4:17; 1 Jn 3:2
Text and tune: public domain

Hymn 461 – He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742-1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; setting: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, alt.

Scripture references: Jn 5:21; 1 Co 15:3-8, 12-23; Col 1:19-22; Rev 1:18
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 449 – This Joyful Eastertide

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934

Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684; setting: Dale Grotenhuis, 1931-2012, alt.

Scripture references: Ps 16:9-11; Mt 12:40; 1 Co 15:12-20

Text and tune: public domain

Setting: ©1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

Hymn 462 – Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c.754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490-1547; setting: Songs of Syon, 1904

Scripture references: Ex 15:1-21; Lk 24:36-39; Jn 20:19-29; Ro 6:9,10
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 441 – I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739-1799, abr.

Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710-1793; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Scripture references: Job 19:25-27; Col 1:18; Heb 7:25; Jn 14:1-3

Text and music: public domain

Hymn 447 – Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

Text and tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b.1971

Scripture references: 1 Co 15:20; Rev 19:1-8; 1 Co 15:55-57; Jn 20:19-29

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Hymn 456 – O Sons and Daughters of the King

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d.1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Scripture references: Mk 16:1-7; Jn 20:19,20, 24-29

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