The Season of Easter



He Qi – Crucifixion & Resurrection

April 18, 2021

Advent Lutheran Church

8840 University City Blvd., Charlotte, North Carolina 28213 Phone: 704-549-1555 Website: <u>www.adventlu.org</u>

"Love God, Serve Neighbor

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

"Easter Song" (Anne Herring)

Annette Nolan

Call to Worship

- L: Risen Jesus, we need your presence on this long road we are on now. The road between fear and hope. The road between the place where all is lost and the place of resurrection. Like those first disciples, we are in need of your company! Stand among us, in your risen power, set our hearts on fire as we gather to hear your words of life.
- C: Amen.

Confession & Forgiveness

 L: Risen Jesus, we are often so distracted by many other concerns that we fail to realize that you are beside us.
 We walk on, so busy and focused on how we can handle the challenges and chances of life that we do not create the silent spaces which would allow you to speak with us and enlighten us as we walk with you.

Silent reflection

- L: When we are afraid to take a truthful look at ourselves, you see us as we really are.Open our eyes, Lord.
- L: When we do not take time to listen to you, you hear us when we call your name.Open our ears, Lord.
- L: When we do not share the good news of your resurrection, you share the joy of your new life with us.Open our mouths, Lord.
- L: In this moment, we make ourselves available to you.Make yourself known to us in a way we can experience.Open our hearts, Lord.

Silent reflection

L: Risen Jesus, you are always with us, Closer to us than the very breath we take and More alive than each beat of our hearts. You forgive our lack of trust. You are patient with all our failings. You seek us when we lose our way. Open our hearts to receive your grace. By your Holy Spirit, let our hearts burn bright within us To melt the clouds of sin and sadness, To light the path for others, and To warm the world with the beauty of your love.
C: Amen.

Easter Greeting

- L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of the Day

- L: Risen Jesus, you make the extraordinary experience of your resurrection an everyday encounter for us. In the passage of all living things through birth, growth and death, we notice the possibility of new beginnings. Your words of new life fill our imaginations to dream of what is possible and to empower us to be your witnesses of the good news of your resurrection.
- C: Amen.

The First Reading	Acts 3:12-19	Debra Efird
Gospel Acclamation	"Word of God Speak"	
The Holy Gospel	Luke 24:36b-48	
The Message		

Laura Torrence



Prayers of the Faithful

- L: Risen Jesus, as the bewildered disciples pondered the stories of your appearance, you stood among them in the midst of their fear and doubt with your word of peace. You showed them the wounds of the cross still present on your hands and feet. You opened their minds to understand that through your death you defeated evil and death. Increase our understanding and open our minds and hearts to see you among us. With confidence we pray:
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.

- L: Risen Jesus, break our hearts for what breaks yours. We pray for all our brothers and sisters, who have been victims of unjust policing practices, especially for the families and friends of those who have lost their lives as a result . . . (give time for community to pray). As we are in the midst of the trial where we face the death of George Floyd, give us courage to acknowledge our role – whether complicit or implicit – in mistakes and sins of the past. By the power of your Holy Spirit, empower us to work toward abolishing social structures which continue to perpetuate racial practices and policies. With confidence we pray:
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- L: Risen Jesus, we know that you are concerned with every aspect of our lives and we ask that you guide those who are lost, those who weighed down with worry and those who are filled with fear. Protect those who are in harm's way, heal those who are ill, and mend those who are broken, as only your love can.

We especially pray for:

- Charlie Anderson
- Josh Baker
- Lindsay Baker
- Kathleen Basilice
- Lemont Bell
- Dallas Collins
- Jordan Doctor
- Eileen Folkerth
- Mary Jo Gouge
- James Hall family
- Richard Henderson
- Nylah Howard
- Chris Jackson
- Waylon Kuklentz
- Ray Matthews
- Hilda Mertz

- Justin Mertz
- Billy Mercer family
- Rick Messina
- Lucy Mullis
- Leo Peeler
- Joan Readling
- Kalvin Roberson
- Richard Schulz
- Spillars and Dunn families
- David Townsend
- Herbert Watson
- Velia Watson
- Jenny Weems
- Beverly Williams
- Lewis Williams
- Renate Wilson
- L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name (give time for community to pray).

L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:

Mike Spillars, brother-in-law of friend of Jennifer Canipe

By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

L: With confidence we pray:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

- L: Risen Lord, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially those who find themselves on the frontlines to bring healing, comfort and care to all impacted by the coronavirus. We are grateful for the development of a vaccine and for those who are assisting in making it available. Strengthen, encourage, and empower us to be people of peace in the midst of anxiety, impatience and worry. With confidence we pray:
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- L: Risen Jesus, we lift these prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide. We ask these things in your holy name.
- C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Benediction

- L: You have heard the Word of God spoken to you this day.
- C: Amen.
- L: You have received the bread of life broken for you this day.
- C: Amen.
- L: Go forth as witnesses to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection.
- C: Amen.
- L: May Almighty God bless you, the Father and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Sending Song

"I Will Celebrate"

Laura Torrence

Chorus

I will celebrate Sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song I will celebrate Sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song

Verse

I will praise Him For He has triumphed victoriously I will praise Him For He has triumphed victoriously

> CCLI Song # 21239 Linda Duvall CCLI License # 2705565

Dismissal

- L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.