

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 19, 2020

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 19, 2020

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Second Sunday of Easter, part of a season in which we celebrate the good news of resurrection and all that it implies for us. This is also the sixth Sunday we have not been able to gather together physically as we try to limit the spread of COVID-19. As is often the case, the sacred calendar provides help for our current situation. In the traditional John 20 text, the Risen Christ comes to disciples who are locked away in fear and brings them gifts of hope and peace. In like manner, Christ comes to us in our times of need and gives us strength. We sing praise to this God who lifts us up in all circumstances of life, we pray for all who are frightened, and we reflect upon the ways in which we might experience more peace. Most of all, we rejoice in the good news that wherever we are today in terms of physical space, place in life, or emotional wellbeing, God is with us, ever seeking to bring hope.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

The Prelude

“The Church’s One Foundation”

arr. Anna Laura Page

The Trinity Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit. As we gather, we present ourselves “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.”

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 16

LEADER: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

PEOPLE: **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.**

LEADER: I keep the Lord always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

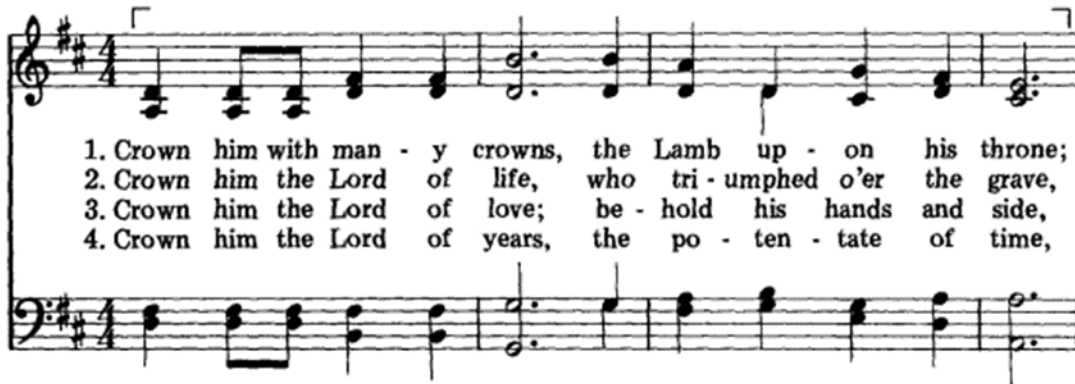
PEOPLE: **Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.**

LEADER: For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

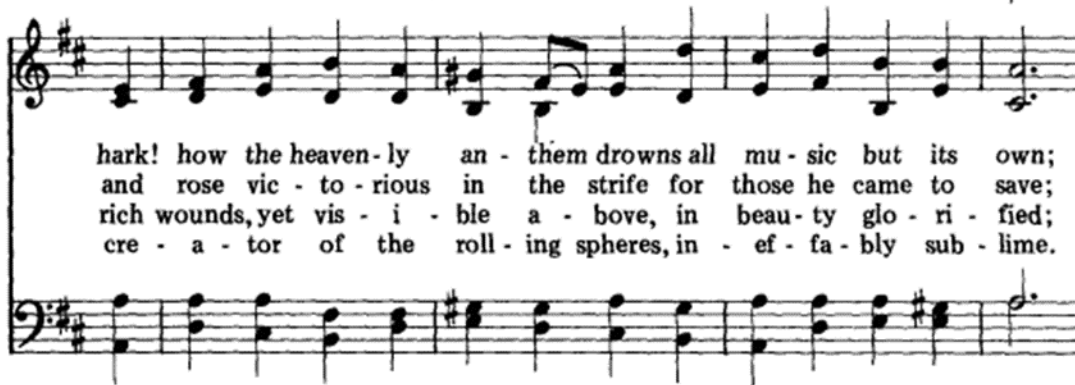
PEOPLE: **You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

The Invocation

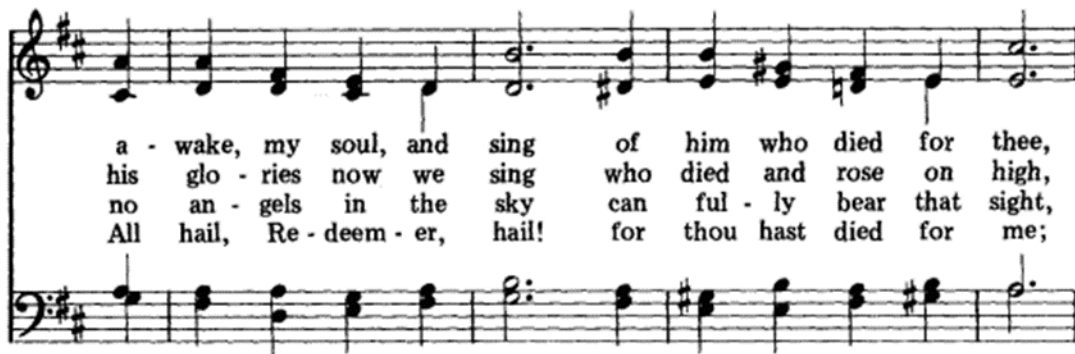
Leah Reed



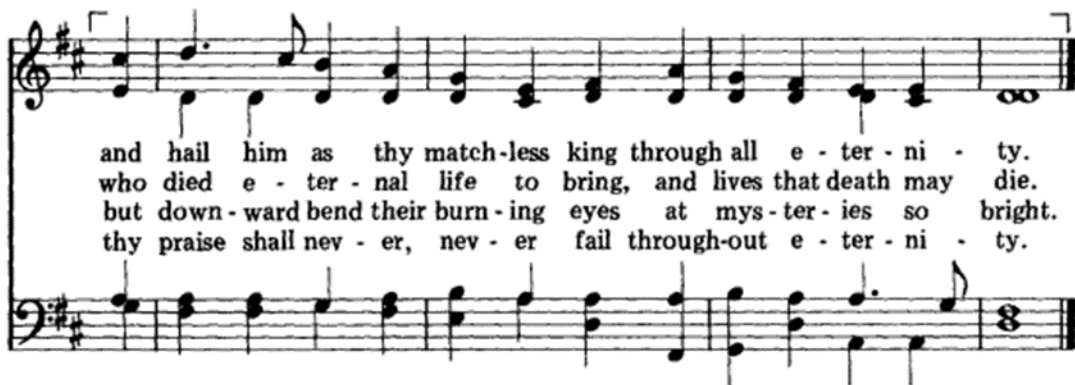
1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 4. Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark! how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own;
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied;
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 his glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,
 no an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

WORDS: Matthew Bridges, 1851; and Godfrey Thring, st. 2, 1974
 MUSIC: George J. Elvey, 1868

DIADEMATA
 S.M.D.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination (unison) ²

Lynn Lingafelt

We do not ask, holy Jesus, to touch or see your wounds but that you come to us in our fear and let us hear the words of those who saw you and believed. You blessed those who have not seen but yet believed: Bless us now and take away our doubt. Amen.

The First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22–32

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer

Trey Davis

The Lord's 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Gospel

John 20:19–31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

The Musical Meditation

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”³
Beth McCollum, violin

arr. Kristin Campbell

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward,
to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, nevermore;
how he watches o’er his loved ones,
died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth,
watcheth o’er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Love of ev’ry love the best:
’tis an ocean vast of blessing,
’tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
’Tis a heav’n of heav’ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee.

The Sermon

“Strength in a Time of Fear”

Christopher Chapman

The Prayer of Response (unison)⁴

**Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy thought can drag downwards;
unconquered hearts, which no tribulation can wear out; upright hearts, which no unworthy
purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon us also, O Lord God, understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Musical Response

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”
Beth McCollum, violin

Bach/arr. Forest Etling

DEPARTING TO SERVE

The Benediction

The Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, sending us into the world with the love of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. As you go, remember, “you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.”

The Postlude

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

arr. Anna Laura Page

¹ The tune and text of “Crown Him with Many Crowns” are in the public domain.

² From *Season of Ash and Fire, Prayers and Liturgies for Lent and Easter*, by Blair Gilmore Meeks, © 2003 Abingdon Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

³ The hymn text of “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” is by S. Trevor Francis and is in the public domain.

⁴ The text of “Give us Steadfast Hearts” is by Thomas à Kempis, 15th century, and is in the public domain.

All scripture quotations contained herein are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the April 13 birth of Elena James Dickens, daughter of **Kent** and Rachael Dickens, sister of Celestia, and granddaughter of **Kent and Carolyn Dickens**.

Sympathy to **Marie Berry** on the April 13 death of her father, Rev. Harold Syfrett.

All church activities are cancelled until further notice.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider your support of these missionaries. We have received \$14,614 toward our goal of \$20,000.

