

Eastertide 1992: Signs of the Risen Christ in our Midst

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CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR

Seekers Church

Eastertide 1992

Signs of the Risen Christ in our Midst

"Today the whole creation, heaven and earth and the deepest abysses of the earth are filled with joy. Let the whole universe celebrate the resurrection by which we are strengthened...

"Yesterday I was buried with you, O Christ! Today I rise with you in your resurrection. Yesterday I was crucified with you: glorify me with you in your kingdom. Christ is risen from the

dead! He has crushed death by his death and bestowed life upon those who lay in the tomb."

Easter Canon of John of Damascus, 3rd Ode

From Faith, Feminism and the Christ,

by Patricia Wilson-Kastner

CALL TO WORSHIP (Unison)

All sing: Jesus Christ is risen today:

A-le-lu-ia!

Let the joyful people say:

A-le-lu-ia!

Christ has shared our earthly
life:

A-le-lu-ia!

Conquered death to end our
strife:

A-le-lu-ia!

Leader: We are strengthened by the resurrection:

We are an Easter people.

Unison: Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed!

INVOCATION

HYMN

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SILENCE

LITANY OF EASTER CELEBRATION

Leader: Trembling, the women approach the tomb;

The tomb, that mysterious place of meeting.

Death meeting life. Women meeting the risen
Christ.

Trembling.

People: Trembling, we approach the edge, where death and life
meet.

Death, the unknown, meets life, new life.

New life faces us with its possibilities and

uncertainties.

Trembling, we approach.

Leader: Easter morning; the women come face to face with Jesus,

face to face with the risen Christ;

They doubt, they fear, they wonder,

as life returns to them from death.

People: From a triumphant Palm Sunday to a dark, betrayed Friday,

we have journeyed to Easter.

Passing through sorrow, through death, to life and joy,

we arrive at Easter.

Leader: When Jesus spoke to them, they knew.

They responded to God's call,

and moved into the unknown future with joyful hearts.

People: We hear Christ speaking in our midst, and we too know.

We move to be God's people in this time and place.

All: "Let the whole universe celebrate the resurrection
by which we are strengthened!"

SILENCE

PRAYERS

CONFESSION (Unison)

We forget that Jesus' resurrection is for us.

God have mercy upon us. (Sung)

We forget that Jesus' resurrection makes possible our own
incarnation.

Christ have mercy upon us. (Sung)

We forget that though the present is in our hands,
the future belongs to God.

God have mercy upon us. (Sung)

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE

Remember the Good News, that what God promised to our ancestors, God has fulfilled for us, by raising Jesus and giving us the promise of new life. We are among the beloved children of God.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

HYMN

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARED REFLECTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

BENEDICTION

The church is Easter!

Out of death: Life.

Jesus lives!

We live!

Resurrection resounds through our community.

Go forth in power.