

Easter



A Community Celebration of the Resurrection: *The Very First Lord's Day*

The Micah Churches of Fredericksburg, Virginia
6:30 a.m., April 16, 2017

Bold type spoken by the congregation

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!
We will give You thanks, for You have answered us;
You have become our salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain
*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness;
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.*
*'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ has burst His prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen.
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from the Light, to Whom we give laud and praise undying.*
*Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.*
*Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold You as a mortal;
but today among your own, You appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.*

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Anthem

Christ Has Risen while Earth Slumbers
*Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hoped died,
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!
Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.
Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.*

John L. Bell

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 31:2-3

Gospel Lesson

John 20:11, 15-16

Easter Message

Calling Our Name
Greg Smith

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.*

*In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

Sending

You have given Yourself to us, Lord.
Now we give ourselves for others.
You have raised us with Christ and made us a new people.
As people of the resurrection, we will serve You with joy.
Your glory has filled our hearts.
Help us to glorify You in all things. Amen.

Benediction



Musicians: Members of the Presbyterian Church Choir and Amy Shirk, organist
Choir Masters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey

The Rev. Dr. Greg Smith is a founder of LUCHA Ministries, Inc., and serves as director and DOJ accredited representative for LUCHA Ministries Immigration Legal Services Program. LUCHA Ministries is a faith-based, non-profit agency serving the Latino immigrant community in the greater Fredericksburg area. Greg is married to Dr. Sue Smith. Their sons are Jason, married to Dr. Myra Houser living in Arkansas, and Kyle, who lives in Fredericksburg.

the
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