FIRST CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 9:30 a.m.
APRIL 4, 2021 EASTER SUNDAY

“Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed.” John 20:8

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord is Risen! Let us worship our risen King!

HYMN: #268 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

INVOCATION: Glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him. Grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ’s rising from the dead may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. “Our Father….”
ACT OF PRAISE: from Psalm 147

1 Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God;  
   for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.  
2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.  
3 He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.  
4 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.  
5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.  
6 The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.  
7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.  
8 He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.  
9 He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.  
10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;[a]  
11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.  
12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!  
13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.  
14 He grants peace[b] within your borders. Praise the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: #276 “The Day of Resurrection”

1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
   the passover of gladness, the passover of God.  
   From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
   our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.  
2 Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
   the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
   and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
   his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.  
3 Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin!  
   Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein!  
   Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,  
   for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.
SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 20:1-18
20:1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.
11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look[a] into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew,[b] “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

MESSAGE: “He Is Not Here”

COMMUNION OF THE LORD’S TABLE
Invitation
Blessing
Sharing

HYMN: #273 “Come, ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”
1 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God hath 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.

2 ’Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days’ sleep in death as a sun hath risen.
Now rejoice, Jerusalem, and with true affection
welcome in unwearied strains Jesus’ resurrection.

3 Neither shall the gates of death, nor the tomb’s dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal.
But arisen ’midst thy friends thou didst stand, bestowing
thy true peace, which evermore passes human knowing.

BENEDICTION: By your power you raised Jesus from death to life. Through his victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God. In his rising to life you promise eternal life to all who believe in him. We praise you that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us. Amen

POSTLUDE