

March 31, 2024
EASTER
Seeking the heart of Jesus-Alleluia!

Worship 9:30am

Fellowship 10:30am
Learning Hour for all ages 10:50am

On Friday evening...

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus...Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid. -Mark 15:42-43; 46-47

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE Mitch Kaufman, trombone, Rosi Penner Kaufman, organ

WELCOME AND PRAYER Lonnie Buerge, worship leader

*HYMN VT 346 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

MOMENT OF WONDER Sara Mwangura

ANTHEMS *Alleluia, Song of Gladness* arr. Behnke
(see text in bulletin)

In Thee Is Gladness arr. Cherwien
(see text at VT #666)

SCRIPTURE Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had

already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SERMON

The Longest Ending of Mark

Steve Friesen

SONG

Paul Zehr

Lonnie Buerge



and it shall be to bind up the wound-ed to feed the hun-gry shel-ter—the



stran-ger— to be His breath-ing out to make the rough plac-es plain.

WE RESPOND AND SHARE

SHARING JOY AND MARCH BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

We welcome the introduction of guests and visitors during this time. One way we get to know one another is by signing the friendship registers. Once the register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.

As we share our joys and concerns, please be mindful of those gathered remotely.

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER VT 353 *Now the Green Blade Rises*

Slips of paper are available in the pew racks for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl table at the front of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

Offertory: *Sonata in D Major* - Mozart

Kate Wiebe, Ella Wiebe, violin; Jonathan Wiebe, cello; Rosi Penner Kaufman, harpsichord
If you would like to take advantage of electronic giving, please find the QR code printed in the newsnotes.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

*HYMN VT 340

Lift Your Glad Voices

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to stand

Anthem: *Alleluia, Song of Gladness*. Latin hymn, 11th cent., tr. John M. Neale; tune LAUDA ANIMA, arr. John Behnke.

Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia, thou resoundest, true Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother, all thy children sing with thee;
But by Babylon's sad waters, mourning exiles now are we.

Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.

Therefore in our hymns we pray thee, grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter with thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

In days of mayhem and uncertainty
when violence overrules our future
when eye for eye and tooth for tooth
leaves us suffering and lost
How can we celebrate this resurrection day?

(Refrain) and it shall be
to bind up the wounded
feed the hungry
shelter the stranger
to be his breathing out
to make the rough places plane.

what shall our vision be?
what will be the calling that we answer?
why should we be called
by His holy name today?
what does it take to
disciple now? (Refrain)

why should anyone bother
to know who we are?
if they knew our directions
would they care to join us
or are these just old stories
fading away; just fading away
and it shall be (Refrains)

If our Jesus was only for history
or for a fanciful tomorrow;
if Jesus can be used
as veneer for every hate
the cross more sword
than towel; the table now a wall
how can it count today....how can it count today (Refrain)

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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