

*Southminster Presbyterian Church*

7001 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 937-433-1810 [www.sminster.com](http://www.sminster.com)



*Easter Sunday*

*A Service for the Worship of God  
In Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord*

April 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**PREPARATION:**

*If possible, please have a candle that you can light  
as we light the Christ Candle during worship.  
You might want to put out a few spring flowers, too.*

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

*Jim Pera*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Rev. Laura Nile*

CALL TO WORSHIP

*One: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!*

**All: Christ is risen, indeed!**

*One: Our long journey through the darkness is over.*

**All: We have danced into the light of Jesus' resurrection.**

*One: No more do we need to fear!*

**All: Jesus lives in our hearts and our spirits.**

*One: The risen Christ calls us to be a source of hope and joy for others.*

**All: Alleluia! Amen.**

HYMN # 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

(omit verse 3)

# 232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,  
un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.  
praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host,

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE

*in unison*

**Holy God, we give you thanks for the joy of the Resurrection. Hallelujahs rise from our lips to greet the risen Christ. We praise you that the tomb of death could not contain the Redeemer of life. With your love in our hearts, our anxieties and burdens are transformed, the boulders that once seemed immovable are pushed aside, and hope is born anew. In gratitude for your gift of abundant life, we will seek to enter into the adventure of resurrection-living with compassion and Christ-like love. Amen.**

CELTIC ALLELUIA



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Je - sus we praise you as Lord; All of the earth gives you  
 glo - ry for your ma - jes - ty \_\_\_ fills the hea - ven, fills the earth.

©1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, Portland, Or: OCP publications

All right reserved; used by permission

**PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

ANTHEM

“Lord of the Dance”

*Ruth Whatley*

*Join Ruth in the chorus:*

*Dance then, wherever you may be;  
 I am the Lord of the Dance said he,  
 And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
 And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

CHILDREN'S SONG

“Jesus Loves Me”

CHILDREN'S TIME

“The Grinch Who Stole Easter”

*Nancy and Laura*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Rev. Laura Nile*

GOSPEL READING

John 20:1-18

# 245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1 "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"  
 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,  
 4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say:  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,  
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise to you by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
 Death in vain for - bids him rise,  
 Je - sus died, our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,  
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

SERMON

“ Dandelions for Easter ”

Rev. Dr. Nancy R. Birdsong

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

ANTHEM

“I Know that My Redeemer Liveth”  
*Beth Menke Miller, soloist*

*Handel*

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

PRESENTATION HYMN # 118 “The Day of Resurrection”

*verse 3*

*(The organist will play the verse once. Then, we will sing it.)*

**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 of gladness blend,  
For Christ the Lord is risen,  
Our joy that hath no end.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

HYMN # 238

“Thine is the Glory”

*verses 1 and 2*

238

## Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; end - less is  
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic-tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai-ment  
 he greets us, scat-ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad-ness  
 with-out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con-querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
 through thy death-less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

## Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.  
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing  
 to thy home a - bove.

## BENEDICTION AND EASTER GREETING

*One: Christ is risen!*

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

*One: Christ is risen!*

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

ANTHEM

“Hallelujah!” from *Messiah*”

*Handel*

POSTLUDE



### *A Letter to Our Guests*

*Welcome! We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us for this Easter service. On this joyful day, we celebrate the gift of resurrection not only as a promise of life after death, but also as a promise that we can live a new life in Christ right now. What brings us together at Southminster Presbyterian Church is a common journey of faith that inspires us to follow the path of Christ in service and in love.*

*Until the virus is gone and we are able to be close to one another again, we can't do things quite the way we usually do at Southminster. However, we continue to worship God, to reach out in love to others, and to stay connected in every way that we can. This is who we are as a family of faith:*

***We are a mission-oriented community.** We are at our best when we are working to make life better for those who are struggling.*

***We are a learning community,** offering a variety of opportunities for learning and conversation for all ages.*

***We are a fellowshiping community.** We love to laugh and play, and of course eat together ... and we are good at all three!*

***We are a worshiping community.** We value our time together in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. The beautiful harmonies of the choir, the prayers of the people, and the preaching of the gospel inspire us weekly.*

***We are a welcoming community.** Whatever your background or circumstance, you are welcome here. We are richer for our diversity, and your presence among us is a blessing.*

***Worship services are on Sundays at 10 am.  
We will continue livestreaming services until we are able to be together again.***