



# Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

Happy Easter! He is risen! On the day of the Resurrection of our Lord, I am happy to share with you the final installment of the sermon series we have been unpacking together these past six weeks, “We Were There: Lenten Edition.” Developed in consultation with Lola Kiser, this series adapted the first-person format of Valley’s lovely Advent devotional book, “We Were There,” picking out fourteen eyewitnesses to Holy Week. This week’s voices are, naturally, the women who first bore witness to the discovery of the empty tomb, specifically Joanna and Salome. Listen in this Sunday to hear the Easter story from them!

Please use following phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am. You can join in one of two ways:

**By computer, smart phone or tablet:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623?pwd=OTFUQWJvU21MMmR6bkY5SitpelR1UT09>

**By Phone:** 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 867 5713 3623, Passcode 205879

(If you need a live link to the Worship link, you can go to the homepage of our website at [www.vccbhm.org](http://www.vccbhm.org) with the passcode 205879 OR click on “Links to Zoom” then the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ’s and yours,  
Pastor Eric

# Valley Christian Church

## Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

### PRELUDE

*"Christ Arose"*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus:  
People: He emptied himself, by taking the form of a slave and becoming like human beings.

Leader: When he found himself in the form of a human, he humbled himself.

People: By becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Leader: Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names.

People: Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:6-11, CEB)

*John Neville  
Worship Leader*

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"*

*Christ the Lord is risen today, alleluia  
All creation join to say, alleluia  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, alleluia  
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, alleluia*

*Lives again our glorious king, alleluia  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia  
Jesus died, our souls to save, alleluia  
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia*

*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*

*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

*John Neville  
Worship Leader*

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

Risen Lord, we hear today the good news that your Son's tomb has been discovered empty, and that your victory over our sin has been achieved. Yet we also confess that there is still so much more healing and resurrection needed in our world today, that we might celebrate anew. As we gather, we remember those who are most urgently need of your presence. We pray to you for the people we have named aloud and the people who are in the silence of our souls, as we lift up to you the ones who we have named aloud at this time...

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

*"Lord of the Dance," Lloyd Larson*

*Bill & Mary Ellen  
Caughran*

#### SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8

*John Neville  
Worship Leader*

#### MESSAGE

*"Joanna & Salome"*

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

#### HYMN

*"He Lives"*

*I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today  
I know that he is living, whatever others say  
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer  
And just the time I need him, he's always near*

*(Refrain)*

*He lives (he lives), he lives (he lives)  
Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and  
Talks with me along life's narrow way  
He lives (he lives) He lives (he lives) salvation to impart  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives in my heart*

*Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King  
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find  
None other is so loving, so good and kind*

*Refrain*

**SHARING  
OUR  
OFFERING  
WITH GOD**

Share your financial offering with the church by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

*John Neville  
Worship Leader*

**OFFERTORY  
PRAYER**

*John Neville  
Worship Leader*

**CALL TO  
COMMUNION**

May we remember how the lifegiving power of the empty tomb is accompanied by the life-sustaining power of the bread and cup of our Lord's Table.

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

**COMMUNION  
HYMN**

*"Now the Green Blade Rises"*

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain  
Love lives again that with the dead has been  
Love is come again like wheat arising green*

*Christ came forth at Easter like the risen grain  
Who that for three days in the grave had lain  
Raised from the dead, the risen Christ is seen  
Love is come again like wheat arising green*

**COMMUNION  
PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Katelyn Clark  
Elder*

**WORDS OF  
INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when He said, "Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Take and drink, this is the cup of the covenant poured out for you."

*As the Words of Institution are spoken, you are invited to partake in the bread and juice, or whatever is available to you.*

**BENEDICTION**

May the Lord who emerged victorious from the empty tomb send you forth in victorious, and may the blessing of the Lord be with you on this day and all days. Amen.

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

**POSTLUDE**

*"Because He Lives"*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

*You are warmly invited to remain in our Zoom worship space for some online fellowship time following the postlude.*

