

ORDER OF WORSHIP
The First Service of Easter
In Azalea Park
April 16, 2017
6:45 AM

* **Welcome**

* **Call to Worship**

Leader: Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is Risen indeed!

Leader: God has handed us a mystery: the tomb is now empty, and the Risen

Christ is here again, calling us to something new.

People: We may not understand, but we are not alone. The air is alive with the fresh scent of new beginnings, because Christ is alive forevermore.

Leader: We come to celebrate His Easter victory over the human predicament of sin, death and the anguished-filled struggles of life.

People: O God, fill us with more of His Resurrection Power and Spirit, so that we can offer this fresh Good News to every human heart!

All: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Amen.

* **Opening Hymn**

W.M. James & H.T. Smart

Easter People Raise Your Voices

Easter people, raise your voices. Sounds of heaven in earth should ring. Christ has brought us heaven's choices heavenly music let it ring. Alleluia, alleluia, Easter people let us sing!

Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here be-low for our Lord em-powered us to triumph over every foe. Alleluia, alleluia, on to vict'ry now we go.

Every day to us is Easter with its resurrection song when in trouble move the faster to our God who rights the wrong. Alleluia, alleluia, see the power of heavenly throngs.

Morning Prayer (pray in unison)

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we, who celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection, may, by the renewing of your Spirit arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

On Easter Morn He Rose
The Long Term Survivors

H. Ledbetter Bowers

The Gospel Lesson

Mark 16:1-8

Minister: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Easter Homily

Rev. Scott Adams

"An Appropriate Response"

* **Closing Hymn**

Victory In Jesus

Bartlett

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory, how he gave his life on Calvary to save a wretch like me; I heard about his groaning, of his precious blood's atoning, then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

Refrain: O Victory in Jesus, my Savior forever! He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood; he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him; he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about his healing, of his cleansing power revealing, how he made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see; and then I cried "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit," and somehow Jesus came and brought me to the victory. *Refrain.*

I heard about a mansion he has built for me in glory, and I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea; about the angels singing and the old redemption story, and some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory. *Refrain.*

* **Dismissal with the Blessing of the People**

WELCOME

It is Easter morning; the single most important day in the life of Christian people. We are delighted that you have chosen to begin this day with us and we welcome you in the name of the risen Christ.

We invite you to return to Bethany UMC and worship with us next Sunday! We offer traditional worship services at 8 a.m. in Spell Chapel and at 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. A contemporary worship service is offered at 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is Sunday School for all ages at 10 a.m. and a nursery is provided.

Visit www.bethany-umc.com for more information.

Alleluia!
HE IS ALIVE!