

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

EASTER SUNDAY

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



EASTER PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

*We rejoice in Your love for us,
and in the life we have been given
through the sacrifice and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ.*

*Open our eyes to recognize Your presence here among us;
open our hearts to the love that You have for us;
open our minds to the truth You would reveal to us.*

*All glory and praise to You, triune God,
now and forevermore. **Amen.***

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

Darkness has been vanquished!

THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF HOPE HAS COME!

Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN!!

*HYMN #302

“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!**

EASTER PRAYER

Gracious God, Thank You for the miracle of Easter – abundant life here, and eternal life with You in Heaven. Help us celebrate that life every day as we seek You and follow Your plan for our lives. Today, we say with the Apostle Paul, “Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?” Amen.

THE CHOIR

“Mary at the Tomb”

B. Ellingboe

SCRIPTURE

Mark 16: 1-8

Dana Stelter, Reader

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” 4 When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. 6 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. 7 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.” 8 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.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE

Why Be A Christian?

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

At this time the ushers will collect the morning's offering.

OFFERTORY

“Glorious Morning”

The Choir

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Karen

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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 #322**

“Up From the Grave He Arose”

**1 Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior!
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!
Up from the grave He arose with a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain
and He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**2 Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!
Up from the grave He arose with a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain**

and He lives forever with His saints to reign
 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

3 Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior!
 He tore the bars away Jesus my Lord!
 Up from the grave He arose with a mighty triumph o'er His foes
 He arose a Victor from the dark domain
 and He lives forever with His saints to reign
 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

*BENEDICTION

May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life,
 strengthen you in hope, enrich you with His love,
 and fill you with joy in the faith. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

***Stand as able.**

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR this morning are given by Donald & Stephanie DeBruyne to the glory of God and in memory of Stephanie's mother, Judith Burger

CALENDAR

Monday, April 10

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
No Zoom Prayer/ Discussion Group

EASTER EGG HUNT immediately after church today.

FISH 'N CHIPS DINE-IN OR TAKE-OUT DINNER ticket sales have begun on the church website caldwellchurch.org. The dinner is on Sunday, April 30 from 5:00 PM through 7:00 PM.

