

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2022**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

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

**Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor**

**Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director**



**THE CHOIR**

**“A Festive Introit for Easter”**

**Besig & Price**

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Viv**

**\*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.**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**John 20: 1-10**

**Joyce Francavilla, Reader**

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

#### **BELL CHOIR**

**“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”**

**arr. James D. Kimball**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**John 20: 11-18**

**Jeannie Laureano, Reader**

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look[a] into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking

for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

**BELL CHOIR**

**"Jesus Christ is Risen Today!"**

**R. Williams & arr. A. Zabel**

**THE MESSAGE**

**LIKE AN EMPTY TOMB**

*"...she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet." v 12*

**DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD**

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

**OFFERTORY**

**"Glorious Morning"**

**Michael Barrett**

**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**

based on Hebrews 13

And now, may the God of peace,  
who brought back again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
equip you with all you need for doing his will.  
May he produce in you,  
through the power of Jesus Christ,  
all this is pleasing to him.  
To him be glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

**\*Stand as able.**

**EASTER EGG HUNT immediately after church today.** Parents and children meet in the back of the sanctuary around the table for instructions. Good luck and many blessings as you find those hidden eggs outside!

**CALENDAR**

**Monday, April 18**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

**No Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group**

**Tuesday, April 19**

**12 PM Funeral-Pastor Viv**

**Sunday, April 17**

**10 AM Holy Humor Sunday**

**FISH N CHIP TAKEOUT DINNER** ticket sales have begun on the church website, [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org). The take out is Saturday, May 14.