

# 2024 Easter Liturgy: Resurrecting Faith



GATHERING

ENTRANCE

REFLECTION

Mary and Mary Magdalen loved with such a perfect love that they shed their fear. Certainly they grieved and experienced their hope flagging during the dark moments surrounding Jesus' death. But they never lost their faith. It remained a small, steady flame that was fanned to brilliant, bold new life in the light of that Easter dawn. They challenge us to love and believe.

Joyce Hollyday, "An Invitation" in *Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter*, p. 384, Plough Publishing House, 2003

#### LIGHTING THE ALTAR CANDLE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: The Holy One calls us to fan the flame of faith,

even when the night seems dark and long.

People: The Spirit calls us to love and believe, even when we are afraid of what the future will bring.

Leader: The risen Christ is here among us.

Christ is risen, today and always.

All: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### HYMN

#### WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SILENCE

PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Leader:                    We are called to tend the torch of faith  
in these troubled times.

People:                    We confess that too often we step back,  
turning away from chaos, fearing for our safety.

Leader:                    We are called to remember  
that Jesus came to teach, to love,  
and to heal those asking for help.

People:                    We confess that too often  
we refuse to do what is ours to do,  
pretending that we are helpless  
in the face of evil.

Leader:                    We are called to lift the lamp of faith,  
lighting the way toward a world  
in which love is stronger than hate,  
and death is not the final word.

All:                         Forgive us when we fail to bear witness  
to the good news of resurrection,  
shining through the chaos of war  
and strife and starvation.



and to respond joyfully when you call,  
freely giving our selves as you have shown the way.  
We open our hearts to you and your creation  
in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ. Amen.

HYMN

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING

COMMUNION

PREPARATION

Leader 1:                    This is the table of the heavenly feast,  
the joyful celebration of the people of God.

Leader 2:                    We gather now as one body, joined around  
the table.

Here we celebrate God's presence among us,  
united in Christ's spirit, broken and whole all at once.

All:                    Nourished and hungry, loved and loving,  
sinner and forgiven, we make one circle  
of knowing, believing, rejoicing, being,  
as God lights and rests among us.

GREAT THANKSGIVING





All:  
and mercy,

God of abundance

we give joyful thanks

for your eternal love and healing presence

in our celebration of bread and cup.

Bless this Body of Christ

that we may attend faithfully to our call to be your servants,

with each other and throughout the world. Amen.

SHARED REFLECTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

BENEDICTION

Leader:                    Let us not be afraid,

but let a brilliant bold faith inspire us on our way.

Let us not be afraid,

but trust we will not walk alone on the road ahead.

Let us not be afraid,

but open ourselves to the love, power and wisdom of the Risen  
Christ

who will be with us always.

People:                    Amen, alleluia!