

# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 5TH, 2026 | EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE | 8:00AM



*Come, celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ with us! All are invited to sing, pray and participate in liturgy.*

IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO HONOR GOD BY STANDING.

PRELUDE

EASTER SONG

ANNE HERRING

CHIMING THE HOUR

BRANDON O'DELL AND MARISA O'DELL

WELCOME

I HYMN

IN THE GARDEN

C. AUSTIN MILES

<sup>1</sup>I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

*Refrain: And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His  
own,*

*And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

<sup>2</sup>He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.

*Refrain*

<sup>3</sup>I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling.

*Refrain*

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of new life, we gather in the cold and first glimpses of the sun celebrating the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus. We gather here, hoping for hope. Do we dare believe what we celebrate today? Can we find faith to shout, or even whisper: "Death, where is your sting?" We confess our fixation on what seems unchangeable to us. Change us to believe that all things can be made new. Embolden us to live your resurrection in a world that hungers for your love and forgiveness.**

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

All of us, like sheep, have gone astray, but now we have returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

I GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

I PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you; **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## GOSPEL READING

LUKE 24:1 - 12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of our Risen Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## POETIC READING

"RISEN"

## † EASTER ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity: you have won victory over death!

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

## † HYMN

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

DAVIDICA, 1708 &amp; WESLEY, 1740

<sup>1</sup> Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

<sup>2</sup> Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

<sup>3</sup> But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

<sup>4</sup> Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia! Praise our God ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER ...Living God, **hear our prayer....**

**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 our debts, as we forgive our debtors, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and glory forever. Amen.**

I HYMN

BECAUSE HE LIVES

WILLIAM J. GAITHER, 1971

<sup>1</sup> God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus; He came to love, heal, and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

*Refrain: Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.*

<sup>2</sup> How sweet to hold a newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy they give; But greater still the calm assurance, this child can face uncertain days because He lives.

*Refrain*

<sup>3</sup> And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain; And then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

*Refrain*

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

I POSTLUDE

CHRIST IS ALIVE!

BRIAN WREN

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***Baskets are available at the exits if you would like to give an offering.***

LITURGISTS: ARGYLE GREENLEE, PIPER GREENLEE, OLIVIA LANDI, WILL MONROE,  
CHARLIE SHIPTON, MOLLY SHIPTON AND REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL  
MUSICIAN: TOM ANDREW

Poem Risen © Jan Richardson. janrichardson.com

**Following this service, all are invited to breakfast at WCPC, an Easter Egg Hunt at 9:15am, and then worship with Communion in the Sanctuary at 10am.**

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> 10am**

***"A Faith Community, Growing Together, Sharing the love of Christ"***

**MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST**