

EASTER SUNRISE WORSHIP
March 31, 2013 6:30 a.m.
First United Methodist Church, Cheraw, SC

In front of the sanctuary

Greeting

Friends, on this holy morning in which Christ passed over from death to life, we gather as the Church to experience Christ's death and resurrection anew. Let us be reminded now of the cross of Christ.

At the three crosses

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, Vss 1-4, (see words at back of program)

The Proclamation of Christ's Resurrection

Luke 24: 1 – 12

Reflection: The Cross Did Not Have the Final Word

“Alleluia”

Verse 1: Alleluia, alleluia...

Verse 2: He is risen, Alleluia...

Verse 3: I will praise him, I will praise him....

At the Cemetery

Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 15: 20 – 26

Reflection: Our Savior Has Vanquished Death

Responsive Litany of Praise

Leader: Lord Jesus, we greet you,

People: *Risen from the dead, victorious over sin and death, over suffering and shame, over all evil and wrong.*

Leader: Lord Jesus, we greet you,

People: *Risen from the dead, overcoming death by the power of love, by patient trust and perseverance, by faith in God alone.*

Leader: Lord Jesus, we greet you,

People: *Risen from the dead, proving that nothing can separate us from God's love, showing us how far that love will go, and suffering for the sins of the world.*

Leader: Lord Jesus, we greet you,

People: *Risen from the dead, and we offer you our thanks and our praise, our prayers and our worship, our devotion and our service.*

Leader: Lord, Jesus, we greet you,

People: *And we pray to you, and we pray through you, and we pray with joy and confidence this Easter morning.*

The Paschal Fire Is Lighted

<i>At the Fire Ring</i>

Responsive Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The risen Savior shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!
The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is indeed right, that with open hearts, clear minds, and exuberant voices we should praise you, unseen God, creator of all that is, and your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has ransomed us by his death, and has risen triumphant from the grave. Therefore, in the joy of this blessed morning, when sin is washed away and mourning is turned to joy, accept our sacrifice of praise. Grant that this Easter candle makes our darkness light, for Christ the morning star has risen, never again to set, and is alive and reigns for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The Christ Candle Is Lighted, and the Flame Is Shared

In front of the sanctuary

Reflection: We Can Be Made Alive in Christ Jesus

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The women came running to tell us.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Out of darkness, light has come.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

The tomb is empty, our hearts are full.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Our mourning has turned to dancing.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Our tears have been turned to laughter.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

The stone moved away from the door of the tomb.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Captives at liberty, prisoners set free.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Death clothes cast aside to bind up broken hearts.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

The lowly are lifted, the mighty brought down.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Today the promise of God is fulfilled in our hearing.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

Hymn Pass it On (See words at back of program)

Sending Forth

Go out now as God's chosen witnesses to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him. Set your minds on the things of God and do not be afraid for your life is safe with Christ in God. And may God raise you from all that would entomb you. May Christ Jesus be your life! And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good! Amen.

After the Service

The Worship Ministry Team invites you to help re-clothe the altar and prepare it for our 11:00am Celebration of the Resurrection.