

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018)

Share:

Why do we worship this morning?

We worship to experience the Risen Christ.

How will we know him?

Through the love and life we share.

What will we do with this experience?

We will go forth as witnesses to God’s amazing act of love.

Let us worship our God of resurrection, hope, and new life.

Read these words from a hymn today: *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding, bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven, nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation, where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: “Christ is risen! Get you gone!”

God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, everyone!

Read this scripture from worship: Mark 16:1-8 (The Message)

¹⁻³ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices so they could embalm him. Very early on Sunday morning, as the sun rose, they went to the tomb. They worried out loud to each other, “Who will roll back the stone from the tomb for us?”

⁴⁻⁵ Then they looked up, saw that it had been rolled back—it was a huge stone—and walked right in. They saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed all in white. They were completely taken aback, astonished.

⁶⁻⁷ He said, “Don’t be afraid. I know you’re looking for Jesus the Nazarene, the One they nailed on the cross. He’s been raised up; he’s here no longer. You can see for yourselves that the place is empty. Now—on your way. Tell his disciples and Peter that he is going on ahead of you to Galilee. You’ll see him there, exactly as he said.”

⁸ They got out as fast as they could, beside themselves, their heads swimming. Stunned, they said nothing to anyone.

Talk together, responding to these questions:

This is April Fools' Day, as well as Easter. What is the purpose of jokes?

When does God surprise us?

How does the truth of the resurrection defy expectations and enemies?

How are we an "Easter people"?

How do we continue the story of good news and resurrection?

Pray together:

God of hope and new life, I am full of thanks for a night of rest and for the new day and all that now awaits me. I go forward toward encounters with family and friends, work and play, and all that will bring me into contact with strangers, certain that you are with me. Lead and guide me in the way of a resurrected life. Help me to see the risen Lord today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Bless one another:

Take each person's hand and say. "God's grace is for you, God's love is upon you, God's call is within you. Be kind to yourself and others this week as a child of God."