



First Congregational Church of Tallmadge

United Church of Christ

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION WORSHIP

April 5, 2026 | 10:00 A.M. | Liturgist- Rev. John Phillips

The chimes call us to a time of worship

GREETING

Liturgist

PRELUDE

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”— Elvey/Larson
Brass Quintet and Organ

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INTROIT

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Holy One,

Congregation: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: As we have gathered here to worship,
let us stand and greet one another in the
love of Christ. (Please stand.)

***GATHERING SONG #652**

“This Is the Day”

Words and Music © 1967 Scripture In Song (a division of Integrity Music.)

*This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made.*

(Please stand.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

- One: Do not look for signs of life amidst the halls of cruelty—
All: the Way-Makers are walking around in the Garden of Life— pulling weeds of despair, tending to the ways of thriving.
- One: Christ is Living! Magdalene saw the stone rolled away herself!
- All: Even in despair the Holy Spirit surprises us with a jolt of Hope! Can you feel it? Wild possibility— brimming and unfurling?**
- One: Alleluia, the Ways of Life expand beyond systems of evil!
- All: Resurrected Christ—inspire our compassion for the world. We will shake off our grave clothes and dance towards New Life.**

*OPENING HYMN #288

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Intro., Vs 1 & 2, Short Interlude, Vs. 3, Interlude, Vs. 4

EASTER

288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

C G/B C F/A F F/C C C/E Dm7 C F/A C/G G7 C

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

F/A C F C/E Dm7 C C/G G C C/E Dm7 C F/A C/G G7 C

All cre - a - tion, join to say Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

G D7/A G/B G C/E G7/D C G G/B A G C/E G/D D7 G

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

G C/E C F/A F F/C C C/E F C/Dm C/E F G7 C

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al - le - lu - ia!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Liturgist

Living Christ, we have seen the ways of death—codified into law, pumped into air, leaked into soil, invested in weapons used against us. And oh! We ache for ways of life. When the onslaught of systems of violence overwhelm us, awaken within us the ways of care set before us for this day. When despair seems more accessible than hope, surprise us with the consolation of friendship. Thank you for your steadfastness against the lovers of domination. Thank you for the example of a life lived in solidarity. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

ANTHEM

“Christ is Risen, Alleluia!” — Albrecht & Althouse
Chancel Choir Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson
c. MCMXCVI by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Wendy Brown

ANTHEM

“Coronation” — Craig Courtney
French Horn: Kierstin Silverman
Chancel Choir Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson
c. 1986 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer

(Please stand.)

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

Intro., vs. 1-3, Interlude, vs. 4

(Please be seated.)

HEARING GOD’S WORD FOR THE DAY

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Liturgist

GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:1-10

²⁸After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said, Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” This is my message for you.’ ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his

(Please stand.)

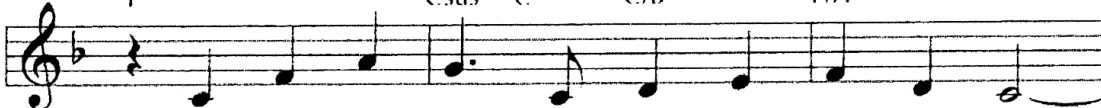
*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

Intro., vs. 1-3, Interlude, vs. 4

We Know That Christ Is Raised 485

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)
F Csus C C/B^b F/A



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
F C F G7 C



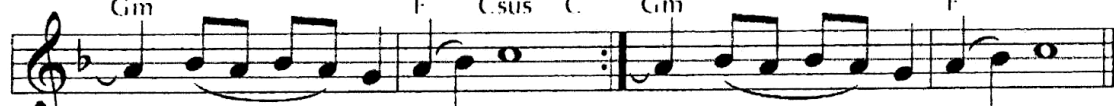
Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
Cm F B^b Gm Dm



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 4
(Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)
Gm F Csus C Gm F



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.
MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904
Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGLIBRG
10.10.10.4
this tune in a higher key, 64D

disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: **THANKS BE TO GOD**

SERMON

*"What's The Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?:
Jesus' Resurrection: Is There Hope?"*

—Rev. Daniel Doty

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Lift High the Cross" — Nicholson/Hamlin

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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(Please stand.)

GIVE ONLINE HERE:



***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Wise Spirit, clarify your invitation to our communities—the ways we are called to co-create salvation for one another. Undo that within us what clings to the ways of domination. Bless our offerings to the audacity of our open hearts.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION WITH LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we thank you for uniting us by baptism in the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead our lips which have sung your praises may speak the truth; our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world; our hands which have held this loaf and cup may be active in your service. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Thine Is the Glory” #310

Brass Quintet & Organ

Intro., Vs 1 & 2, Interlude, Vs. 3

(words and music on the following page)

Intro., Vs 1 & 2, Interlude, Vs. 3

EASTER

310

Thine Is the Glory

Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
 $\frac{Bb7}{F}$
Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Bb
 $\frac{Bb7}{D}$
Eb
Bb
Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is nought with-

Eb
Fm
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Bbsus
Bb7
Eb
Bdim
Cm

vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let his church with glad - ness
 out thee: aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors,

Ddim7
 $\frac{Cm}{Eb}$
Ddim
F
Cm
G
Cm
F7

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth:
 through thy death - less love: bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

Gm
Eb
F
Bb
Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
 $\frac{Bb7}{F}$
Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Bb
 $\frac{Bb7}{D}$
Eb
Bb

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;
 to thy home a - bove.

WORDS: Edmond L. Budry (1854-1932); tr. R. Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)
 MUSIC: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

JUDAS MACCABEUS
 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5.Ref.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATION RESPONSE**

*“Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.”*

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Voluntary” — John Stanley
Brass Quintet

C. 1998 Bryan Goff, Publ. the International Trumpet Guild

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Brass Quintet: Michael Skotko—Trumpet
Andy Gates—Trumpet
Kierstin Silverwood—French Horn
Ian Crouse—Trombone
Nick Zevchek—Tuba

Tech Team: Vince Scovern, Anne Pertick, Ann Hagan

Liturgist: Rev. John Phillips

Ushers: Larry Robinson, Dave Marconi, Tom Labay, Ken Caldwell

Greeters: The Sullivan Family

Preparation of Holy Communion: Deacon's Ministry

A huge thank you to everyone who generously gave to the Special Music Fund!

Organist and Chancel Choir Director — Nancy Lynn Robinson



OFFICE CLOSED

Our church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 6th.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge will offer two membership orientation classes on Sundays, May 24 and 31, at the 9:00am hour before worship. If participants are led to join FCC in membership, the New Member Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, June 7th. Please let the church office know if you are interested. You can email Cathy Cotter, the church's Office Administrator, at info@fctallmadge.org

Special Music Donations 2026

Maria Boyd	Thank you for praying for the recovery of my son, Zander (21), after his motorcycle accident.
Ken and Diana Caldwell	Resurrection Blessings to All!
The Cammel Family	Praise the lord!
James Chapman	Thanks be to Nancy Robinson, our music director.
Sandy Farabee	Christ is Risen!
Joan Haby and Charles and Karen	In loving memory of husband and dad, Larry, and loved ones.
Lindsay and Andy Halm	In memory of Lydia Christopher
Sharon Harms	
Jane Huffman	In memory of John Huffman
The Family of Nancy Johnson	Thank you for all the prayers for our sweet Momma!
Fred and Gayle Kerscher	In celebration of blessings at Easter
June Kolb	
Chris and Carol Law	May the music fill your heart with gratitude, peace, and joy!
Mike and Cherrie Lebarre	In memory of our LeBarre, Baker, and Meckler families
Carolyn Atwood Mackey	Enjoy the music!
Dave and Sandy Marconi	He has risen
Carol Penn	He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
Dan and Anne Pertick	In memory of our fathers, Jim and Mike.
Margi Popio	
Becky Rapini	
Larry and Nancy Lynn Robinson	In honor of our parents
Don Simmons	In God We Trust
Connie Stone	
Sylvia Taylor	In memory of my parents and sisters
Bill Westfall	
Don and Judy Woerz	In memory of our family members
Ken Zach	

Easter Flower Donations 2026



Jim and Jana Caplinger	Hallelujah! He is Risen
Jim Chapman	Thanking God for those love filled years with my beautiful wife, Ellie, and my loving companion, Noma Spenser
Cathy Cotter	
Dan and Amy Doty	In honor of the birth of our grandsons, Atlas Michael and Declan Pierce.
The Drummond Family	In memory of Nelson Drummond
Sandy Haydu	From Bob, to his wife, Sandy
Dianne Huth	In memory of Gus and Jane Huth and Dave, Mark, and Brad Huth
Karen and Mike Huth	In honor of our families
John and Fay James	Happy Spring
Fred and Gayle Kerscher	In memory of loved ones.
Rebecca Kulmala	In memory of Linda and Mom, Dad, Bobby, and Bonnie
Cherrie and Mike LeBarre	"All things new"
Carolyn Atwood Mackey	Spring Flowers bring HOPE!
Donna Marlow	In celebration of Easter
Becky Michael	In thankfulness for God's blessings.
Nan Nagel	Celebrating Easter and family
Anne and Dan Pertick	Happy Easter!
Becky Rapini	
Don Simmons	In God we trust
Teresa Snyder	In memory of Ray Hartman
Wanda Strott	In loving memory of husband, John, and son-in-law, John Zreny
James Taylor	
Jim and Dee West	Happy Easter!
Don and Judy Woerz	In memory of loved ones.

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm 66:20*

The Ashley Family

Debbie B.

The Becking Family

Katie Ann Bickett

Joyce Bojarski

Margarete Boschert

Jim Brown

John Calvarese

Patti Calvarese

Sue Canavan

Jim Caplinger

Mark Clark

Patty Conely

Rylin Davis and family

Sean and Sara Doty

Mark Downey

Elaine Engle

Ron Evans

Debbie Fickes

Bonnie Fordham

Darrell Goodson

Eleanor Hall

Sue Hamilton

Alleen Hilbish

Jim Jackson

Gene Jarjabka

Nancy Johnson

Anita Kelly-Lahrmer

Zell Lambert

Yvonne Larson

Roberta Lewis

Bob McPherson

Melba Moor

Gary Miller

Ron Mitchell

George Nehrenz

Lynn Norton

Bob Poff

David and Jackie Parker

LTJG John Norton

Heather Read

Richard Reynolds

Alice Sheeler

Eddie Showalter

Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear

Lt. Maxwell Spear

Richard & Karen Thomason

Kim and Noel Walters

Ensign 3 Kaitlyn Wetter

Don Woerz

Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group