

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
Wednesday, April 8, 2026**



*Mary Magdalene Discovering the Empty Tomb*  
Painting by Herschel Pollard (1938- ), Tennessee

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

CP 5 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise!  
Triumph o'er the shades of night:  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

3 Visit then this soul of mine,  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, Radiance divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return  
till thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Gathering: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
 All desires known,  
 And from you no secrets are hidden.  
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
 That we may perfectly love you,  
 And worthily magnify your holy name.  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion: Holy God,  
 Holy and mighty,  
 Holy and immortal one,  
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 *Refrain: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.*

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever!

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

<sup>16</sup> the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.'

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 28:1-10

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

<sup>2</sup> And 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.

<sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.

<sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.

<sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.

<sup>6</sup> He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

<sup>7</sup> Then 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.'

<sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

<sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

<sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

CP 215 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

1 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought his Israel  
into joy from sadness:  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

2 'Tis the spring of souls today:  
Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun hath risen.  
All the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from his light, to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendour,  
with the royal feast of feasts,  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection.

4 Neither might the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold thee as a mortal;  
but today amidst the twelve  
thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore  
passeth human knowing.

5 Alleluia now we cry  
to our King immortal,  
who triumphant burst the bars  
of the tomb's dark portal;  
alleluia, with the Son  
God the Father praising;  
alleluia, yet again  
to the Spirit raising.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison WesterveltCCLI 7071209 God With Us

1 He is with us in this season  
 When silence fills the home  
 When the lights that you once loved  
 Leave you aching and alone

2 He is with us in the distance  
 Between two shattered hearts  
 When you're standing in the same room  
 But half a world apart

***Chorus***

***He is with us in our pain  
 In our sorrow in our shame  
 In the lonely midnight keep looking up  
 Love has come God with us  
 Love has come God with us***

3 He is with us when the evening falls  
 And all the laughter fades  
 When the emptiness comes creeping back  
 creeping back  
 And just steals the joy away

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the Virgin Mary.  
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again.  
 He ascended into heaven.  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again  
 to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Bridge***

Can you hold on now  
 Can you just stay strong  
 No matter how it feels  
 He is with you  
 In what you're facing now  
 Know you're not alone  
 Let this be your hope  
 He is Emmanuel

***Ending***

God with us God with us God with us  
 In the lonely midnight keep looking up  
 Love has come God with us

Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: Sandra..... Merle..... Mary..... Irene ..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa and Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline.....Jorges and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry..... Christena..... Elsie..... Irvin and Margaret..... Ashley..... Emily..... Zaldy and his family..... Louise A...

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

**Hear and have mercy**

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life

**Hear and have mercy**

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Give courage and faith to all who are disabled through injury or illness. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Give courage to all who await surgery. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Strengthen those who endure continual pain and give them hope. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Uphold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**Hear and have mercy**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

**Hear and have mercy**

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Lord of life and power,  
 through the mighty resurrection of your Son,  
 you have overcome the old order of sin and death  
 and have made all things new in him.  
 May we, being dead to sin  
 and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
 reign with him in glory,  
 who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive,  
 one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 237 Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

2 In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,  
Thinking that he would never wake again,  
Lain in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

3 Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Your touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**