



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 24, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.**

Words of Welcome

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!
Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

Many: Give praise for God's mighty deeds! Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

One: Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets! Praise God with the harp and the cello!

Many: Praise God with tambourines and dancing! Praise God with flutes and guitars!

One: Praise God with cymbals and drums

All: Let everything with life and breath praise God!

*Hymn (#245)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

*Call to Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts,
When we are afraid to speak our faith in the world,
forgive us and help us to find our voice.
When we are afraid to forgive and to love again,
forgive us and give us the power to forgive.
When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority,
join with the weak to make us all strong.
When we are confined by our hurts,
touch us with your wounded hands and set us free.
When we are locked behind our doubts and fears,
pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts,
resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life.

All: As God's own forgiven people,
let us go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world
In the name of Jesus Christ. Alleluia! Amen.

***Congregational Response (#240, Refrain)**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name. (Sing Twice)*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Revelation 1:4-8

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Anthem

Second Scripture Lesson

John 20:19-31

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come 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.

***Hymn (#231)**

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Congregational Response (#606, Alternate Tune—#15)**

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: Holy One, bless our offerings and transform them.

All: **Turn them into healing for the wounded,
hope for the disheartened,
courage for the frightened,
and faith for the embittered.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
your faithful witness,
the first resurrected,
and ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#817)

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

*Charge & Benediction

*Postlude

*Please rise, in body or spirit.



245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1 "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"
 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say:
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to you by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Je - sus died, our souls to save,
 Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave?
 Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

Originally printed as eleven four-line stanzas without alleluias, this Easter text was written during the first year following the author's life-changing conversion experience, yet it already shows his enduring emphasis on the theme of love. This lively Welsh tune sets it well.

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231



1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
 2 Christ has ris-en for the peo-ple whom he died to love and save;
 3 Christ has ris-en and for ev-er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de-nied.
 Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
 all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re-li-gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
 Christ has ris-en for dis-ci-ples hud-dled in an up-stairs room.
 Christ is ris-en, Christ is pres-ent mak-ing us what he has been:

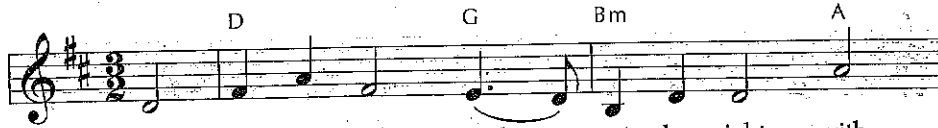


let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris-en, God is here!
 He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
 ev-i-dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

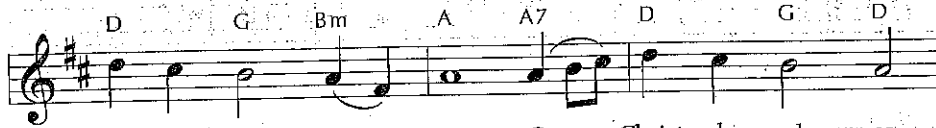


Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19-29). The shape note tune, named for *Thomas* in *Essex County, Pennsylvania*, adds resolution to the words.