

**JESUS, ONLY JESUS. SONG OF PRAISE**

**JESUS, ONLY JESUS**

Dissatisfaction in life is near the root of all kinds of sin. Why do people cheat on their spouse, abuse drugs and alcohol, mindlessly binge-watch ridiculous amounts of television, scroll endlessly on Facebook and Twitter, steal, or commit suicide? All of these things and more happen because people haven't found happiness.

At the root of our dissatisfaction is a never-ending thirst that nothing in this world can satisfy. We've been duped into thinking that a better job, more money, cooler friends, another spouse, or a new life is really what we need. And if we can't obtain any of these things, or when they leave us dissatisfied, we resort to drug abuse, sexual immorality, or senseless entertainment.

Only Christ can save.

Only Christ can satisfy.

God offers us himself in the person of Christ. Jesus exceeds our expectations, provides for our needs, and fulfills our desires.

Christ alone can provide the satisfaction and joy we so desperately seek.

Jesus. Only Jesus.

*--Phillip Holmes*

Who has the power to raise the dead?  
Who can save us from our sin?  
He is our hope, our righteousness  
Jesus, only Jesus

Who can make the blind to see?  
Who holds the keys that set us free?  
He paid it all to bring us peace  
Jesus, only Jesus

**Holy, King almighty Lord  
Saints and angels all adore  
I join with them and bow before  
Jesus, only Jesus**

Who can command the highest praise?  
Who has the name above all names?  
You stand alone, I stand amazed  
Jesus, only Jesus

*You will command the highest praise!  
Yours is the name above all names!  
You stand alone, I stand amazed  
Jesus, only Jesus!*

**RESPONSE OF ADORATION**

**FAIREST LORD JESUS**

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
O Thou of God and man the Son,  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
Now and forever more be Thine.

**OFFERTORY**

JESUS SHALL REIGN • ECBC ORCHESTRA

**CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS**

**MORNING SERMON**

CONRAD "BUSTER" BROWN, JR. • SENIOR PASTOR

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**RESPONSE OF ADORATION**

**FAIREST LORD JESUS**

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run,  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Let every creature rise and bring  
the highest honors to our King,  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.

**BENEDICTION**

*Leader: As we go out this day, we do so with great joy knowing that in Christ He will enable us to continually proclaim:*

**CONGREGATION (Shouted) :  
CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!  
AMEN!**

**POSTLUDE**

**EVERY SUNDAY EASTER**

TODD LINN

Last Sunday, Christians the world over celebrated the resurrection on Easter; the day marking the point in history Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

In a very real sense, however, Easter Sunday is observed not just once a year, but every Sunday of every week. Each Sunday is like a repeat of Easter because on each and every Sunday, Christians celebrate Christ's rising from the grave.

Indeed, for Christians the Resurrection not only matters, it is a matter of life and death.

A close examination of 1 Corinthians 15 reveals why Christians believe the Resurrection is of such great importance. In a small paragraph (verses 12-19), Paul argues that the Resurrection makes all the difference with respect to the Christian's faith, forgiveness and future. In a single verse, Paul delivers the force of his sobering argument. He writes, "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty (v. 14)."

If anything, this verse should silence the person who claims to be a follower of Christ while also denying Christ's bodily resurrection. Such a position, Paul argues, is unwarranted. Everything either stands or falls with Christ's rising from the dead. No Resurrection means no faith, no forgiveness and no future.

For the Christian, however, the bodily resurrection of Christ is a matter of historical record. The Christian faith is not a blind faith, but an objective faith. Christians believe in the objective record of truth about Christ as recorded in the Bible. Consequently, the Resurrection is not up for debate. It really happened and is therefore celebrated every Sunday.

Every Sunday is a celebration of the Easter event — Christ's rising from the grave that we might have a real faith, real forgiveness and a real future.



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**WORSHIPGUIDE**

Please use the following prayer to prepare your hearts for worship:

**Glorious Lord of life,** by the mighty resurrection of your Son, you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him.

Grant that we who joyfully celebrate Christ's rising from the dead may worship You in fullness of joy, and may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The fullness of the resurrection requires more than a day to unpack. The Easter season is a fifty-day celebration that ends on Pentecost Sunday (Pentekost = Fiftieth). The Easter season is a time to let the implications of the resurrection sink in deeper, inviting us to realign our worldview and conform our living to the reality that we have been raised with Christ to new life. Easter is full of joy and the laughter of love - the grave is empty, love has won, Christ is risen!

**On this Second Sunday of Easter, we continue to rejoice in the joy of resurrection life.**

## REFLECTION THOUGHTS FOR WORSHIP PREPARATION

From nursery school onward we are taught how to succeed in the world of ungrace.

The early bird gets the worm.  
No pain, no gain.  
There is no such thing as a free lunch.  
Demand your rights.  
Get what you pay for.

I know these rules well because I live by them...  
Yet if I care to listen, I hear a loud whisper from the gospel that I did not get what I deserved .

I deserved punishment and got forgiveness.  
I deserved wrath and got love.  
I deserved debtor's prison and got instead a clean credit history.  
I deserved stern lectures and crawl-on-your-knees repentance;  
I got a banquet spread for me.

*- Philip Yancey  
What's So Amazing About Grace?*

Often we miss the inner mysteries of the very things with which we are most familiar.

*- Helmut Thielicke*

This is the three-fold truth  
On which our faith depends,  
And with this joyful cry  
Worship begins and ends:  
Christ has died!  
Christ is Risen!  
Christ will come again!

*- Fred Pratt Green*

### THINE IS THE GLORY

"Conquering Son" is not a name used often for Jesus, but it is a fitting military title for the One whose resurrection Christians celebrate each Sunday, and not just on Easter day.

Stanza 3 asks that this conquering hero will also help us fight. Fight our greatest enemy—death. Death is here compared to the Jordan River, which the ancient Israelites in their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, had to cross before they could finally settle in the Promised Land.

The Apostle Paul promises that victory over this final enemy is assured for those who belong to Christ:

The last enemy to be destroyed is death—death has been swallowed up! Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (1 Corinthians 15)

But, the same power that will enable us to conquer death in the future is available to help us conquer another enemy: Sin.

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have One (Jesus) who has been tempted in every way just as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15)

*Thine is the victory, risen conquering Son. Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.*

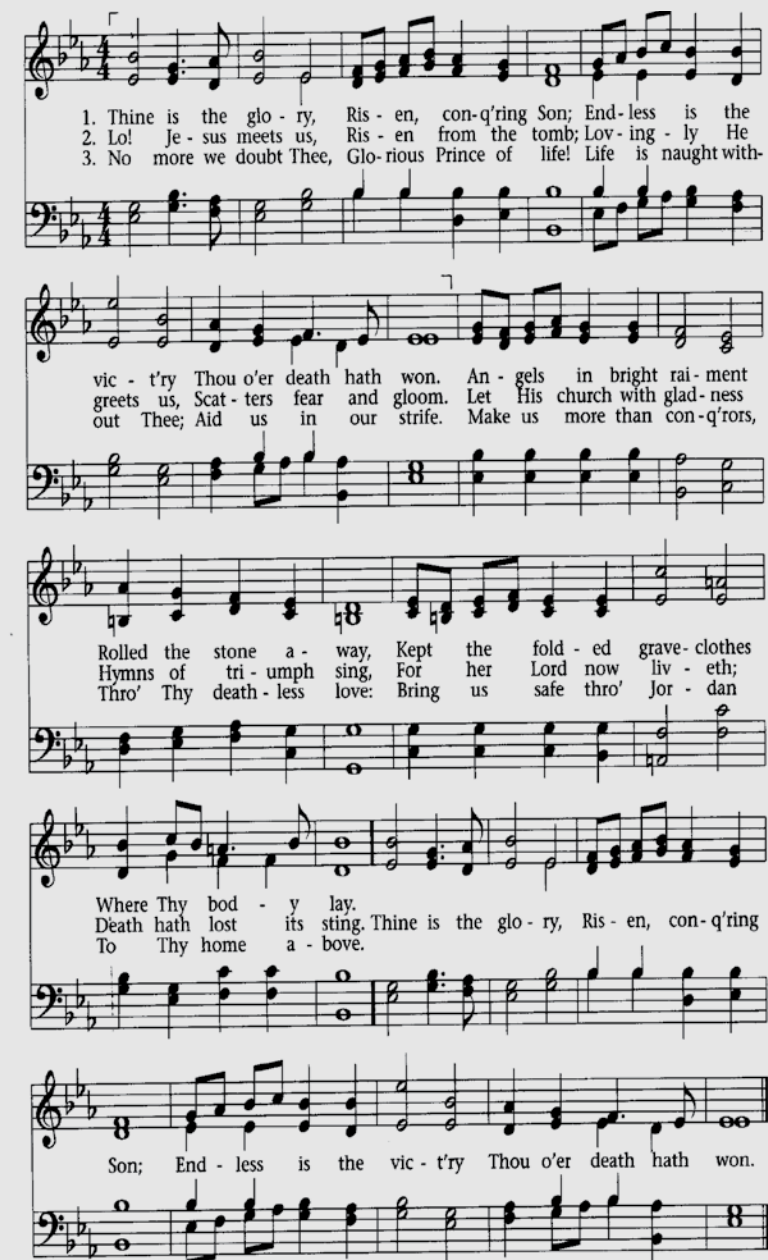
## THE MORNING WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS VIDEO

### PRELUDE PRAISE

THINE IS THE GLORY • ECBC BRASS

### EASTER HYMN OF PRAISE

THINE IS THE GLORY [MACCABEUS]



1. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-q'ring 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 naught with-

vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hath won. An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet us, Scat - ters fear and gloom. Let His church with glad - ness  
out Thee; Aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - q'rors,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;  
Thro' Thy death - less love: Bring us safe thro' Jor - dan

Where Thy bod - y lay.  
Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-q'ring  
To Thy home a - bove.

Son; End - less is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hath won.

### ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

God always comes to us before we come to God.

Biblical worship is a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people.

Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

Ac - cla - ma - tion: n.  
1: a loud eager expression of approval, praise, or assent  
2: an overwhelming affirmative vote by cheers, shouts, or applause rather than by ballot. (Merriam-Webster)

Three times in our services this morning, we will shout together the Gospel Acclamation:  
CHRIST HAS DIED,  
CHRIST IS RISEN!  
CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!

This is an affirmation of the reality of The Gospel in our lives - let us proclaim this truth this morning -- and let us live it out everyday -- with great joy!

## ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE LITANY

PSALM 100 / THREE-FOLD TRUTH

**LEADER:** *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! And so we gather to proclaim:*

**CONGREGATION (Shouted):**  
**CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!**

**LEADER:** *Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. And He created us to proclaim:*

**CONGREGATION (Shouted):**  
**CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!**

**LEADER:** *Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! And be grateful to proclaim:*

**CONGREGATION (Shouted):**  
**CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!**

**LEADER:** *For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. And we continually proclaim:*

**CONGREGATION (Shouted):**  
**CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!**

## THE HYMN OF ACCLAMATION

THIS IS THE THREE-FOLD TRUTH [ACCLAMATION]



1. This is the three - fold truth on which our faith de - pends,  
2. On this we fix our minds as, pray - ing side by side,  
3. By this we are up - held when doubt or grief as - sails  
4. This is the three - fold truth which, if we hold it fast,

and with this joy - ful cry wor - ship be - gins and ends:  
we take the bread and wine from Christ the cru - ci - fied:  
our Chris - tian for - ti - tude, and on - ly grace a - vails:  
chang - es the world and us and brings us home at last:

Christ has died! Christ is ris - en! Christ will come a - gain!