

EASTER CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

APRIL 20, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Preparing for Worship: “The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar” (Psalm 118:27, New International Version).

Prelude Janice Hedberg, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

***Call to Worship: (Stand)**
Dear friends in Christ: The night is over! The morning is here!
Christ is risen! He has risen just as he said!
Death has been defeated! No more tears of sadness or remorse!
Death has died! Life in Christ is our victory over the grave! Rejoice!
This is the day the Lord has made:
We will rejoice and be glad in it!
This is our confession of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

***Easter Proclamation:** Alleluia! Christ is risen! *He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

***Gathering Song # 270** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” *EASTER HYMN*

***Opening Prayer**

Songs of Faith #273 “Christ Arose” *CHRIST AROSE*

Proclamation of Faith & Forgiveness The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

Alleluia Response: “Alleluia”

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Nancy Lindberg

The First Reading Acts 10:34-43

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Gospel Reader: Deacon Traci Brown

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**

John 20:1-18

***Responsorial #** “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”

***Passing the Peace with Family, Friends, and Neighbors (Stand)**

Children's Sermon (Kids 3rd Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

Announcements & Prayers of the Community

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations - A collection plate is available in the front of the Sanctuary, ushers will collect the offering, or you can give online.



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A Prayer & The Message: “He is Not Here...He’s Everywhere!”
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Invitation to the Lord’s Table – We practice *open communion*. All persons who profess faith in Jesus Christ are invited to participate in this memorial meal. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together.

Communion Song “The Resurrection Hymn”

The Words of Institution and the Lord’s Prayer – **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

Holy Communion: The Lord’s Supper

Breaking of the Bread *The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven*
Passing of the Cup *The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation*

RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

***Closing Hymn #269** “He Lives” *ACKLEY*

***Spoken Benediction (Stand)** The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

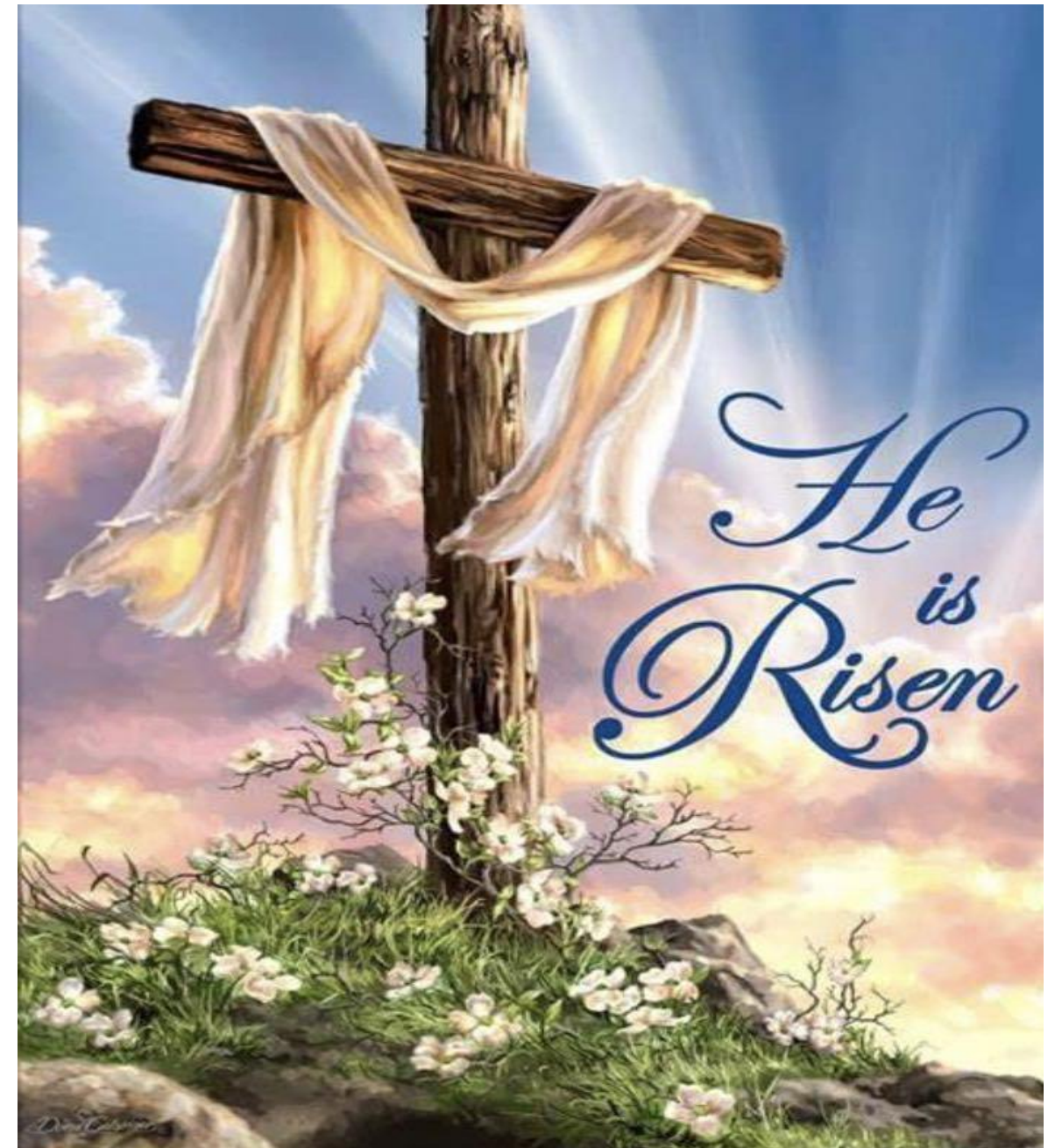
**Thank you for sharing your Easter flowers with us.
Please take them home with you after worship.**

HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) that have hurt God and others. Apologize to God, turn away from harmful behavior, and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer, Redeemer (Savior), and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

OUR MISSION – We love God and We love People by sharing the Good News of God's forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed to improve the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an independent, autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with like-minded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation, and World.



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