

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Cathy Gumpert, Pastor

John Ayer, Music Director

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

April 8, 2007

7:30 a.m.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship
24

Psalm 118:1, 2; 14-

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; His steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

People: The LORD is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation.

Leader: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

People: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but He did not give me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

Leader: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

People: I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Leader: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

ALL: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn of Praise
HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

EASTER

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia! Where the angel's ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession
24

Psalm 118:1, 2; 14-

Holy God, You are the source of all good, of all strength, of all love. Your steadfast love endures forever. That is something too marvelous for us to truly understand sometimes, Lord. We lose sight of Your steadfast love in the busyness of our lives. We rush from task to task, trying with all of our might to do what we should. And then we are surprised when we begin to feel disconnected. Perhaps it is because we lose sight of the important in the clamor of the urgent. Perhaps it is because we try with our might, and forget to ask what it is that You would have us do. We are sorry to get so distracted, Lord. Today, on this holiest of days, open our hearts and minds to the incredible gift of salvation offered to the world through Jesus Christ. Help us to share this gift with the world, which is also so disconnected from You. In this way Your will can be done here on earth, as it already is in heaven. We ask this in Jesus' strong name. Amen.

Words of Assurance
2

Isaiah 43:1-

Summary of the Law
35

John 13:34-

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Preparation

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Lord I lift Your name on high, Lord I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life, I'm so glad You came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift Your name on high.
(Repeat)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons
Old Testament
607

Isaiah 65: 17-25

p.

New Testament

Luke 24: 1-12

p.

860

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES!

Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye seed of Israel's consen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!

*Benediction

Benediction Response "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

CORONATION

Let ev'ry tongue and ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Confession of Faith

The 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father, Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

"Amazing Grace"

NEW

BRITAIN

Amazing grace! (How sweet the sound!) that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Dedication of Gifts

Prayers of the Community and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Dedication

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

CORONATION

All hail the power of Jesus' name, let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all!