

Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

Our Common Practices

We Gather

We gather for worship more often than not.
We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.

We create hospitable space for one another.

We Grow

We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...).

We nurture our faith.

We attend to relationships that promote growth.
We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

We Give

We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.

We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

We Go

We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.

We help the vulnerable among us.

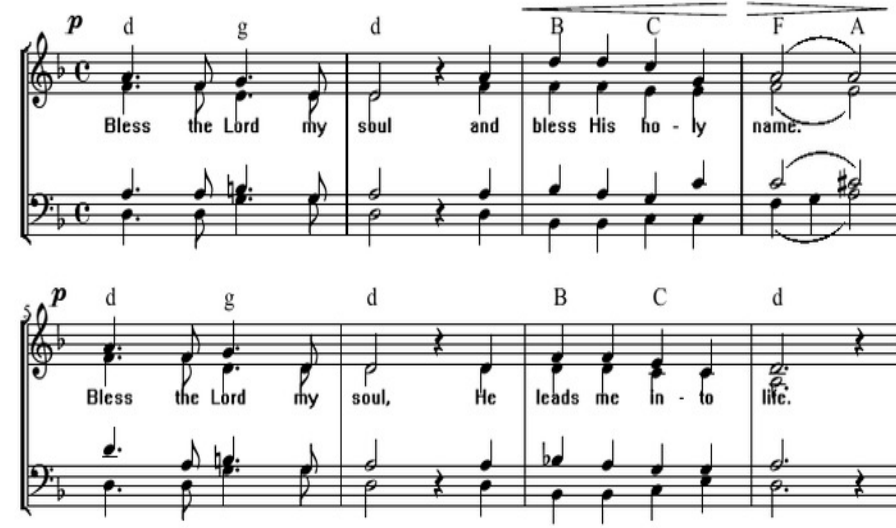
We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

A Breath Prayer for the Easter Season:

"I put my trust in Your unfailing love."

Bless the Lord my soul

m.: J. Berthier, Taizé



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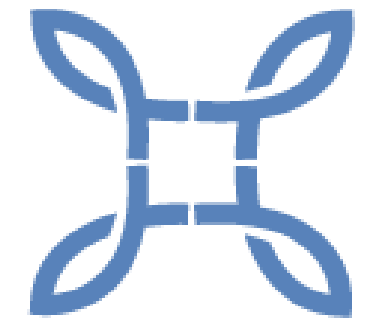
Christ
Risen!

CHURCH OF



THE NAZARENE

indeed!
Christ
Risen!



TABLELIFE
CHURCH



Order of Worship
12 April 2020
Easter Sunday 2020

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading from Psalm 118

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Sermon Series: Palm Sunday
Sermon: "Easter Earthquake"
Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

We Come to the Table

Prayers of the People
Song of preparation
Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

Sermon Reflection Guide

Matthew 28.1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 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." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Question for Everyone

(1) I hate drama. I never draw attention to myself. I am understated and quiet. (10) I am a drama king/queen. I have a flair for the dramatic. I love the limelight. Where are you on this "drama" range?

Resurrection Changes Everything

Easter changes everything. I think that's what Matthew is trying to tell us in his rendering of the Easter story. Easter is this seismic interruption of cosmic proportions that calls into question basic assumptions about everything from the status of women to the power of death. Resurrection is not resuscitation or reanimation; resurrection is the creation of a whole new reality, much like this one only much more so. Resurrection isn't the watered down hope that we get to float around as disembodied souls adrift on clouds of celestial cotton

swabs. Resurrection is the new creation of glorious substance; the perishable is putting on the imperishable. OK. So what? How does this change the way we live?

The Drama of Easter

There is no doubt that our early brothers and sisters had so profoundly experienced Jesus in his resurrection body that they were willing to risk everything, life and limb, comfort and security, to make sure the good news of the resurrection was given to others. Something decisive and dramatic happened that first Easter morning. Is this compelling proof as to the truth of the resurrection? What compels you to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? Is your faith shaken by our current state of affairs? Why? Why not?

The Women

I admire these ladies. The guards faint away. The women remain upright and they accept their mission. They don't linger around death. They run to tell the others about life. They are the first ones to meet Jesus. They are the first ones to tell the story of the empty tomb. The resurrection changes all the assumptions about how the world works. Peasant women respond with wonder, a little fear, and joy. Manly men, soldiers, faint in hysteria. All assumptions of strength and weakness are called into question on Easter. Think about all the assumptions Easter calls into question. Name them. Consider the definition of courage revealed in the Easter story. How does one define courage in light of the Easter story?

Do not Be Afraid

Both the angels and Jesus tell the women: "Do not be afraid." Talk about your fears. What makes you afraid? How do you cope with fear? What's the difference between fear and anxiety? How does Easter help us deal with our fears? How do you live into your Easter hope?