

## Worship Planner for Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

[Lucknow- Lighting Christ Candle]

**Responsive Call to Worship**

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen! The world is forever changed.

**All: Alleluia! Christ is risen! We are forever changed.**

One: We need not fear, for the God of the covenant  
promises to be with us through every change.

**All: May we always be open to new ways of living, relating, serving, and seeing.**

One: May the God of life remind us that death never has the final say.

**All: May the risen Christ prove to us that violence and hatred will never win.**

One: May the Holy Spirit, our advocate, lead us to advocate for others.

**All: May we go boldly forward to live out the love, justice,  
and hope that Easter proclaims.**

Opening Hymn #243 Jesus Christ is risen today

Prayer of Approach and Lord's Prayer

*Hear us now as we confess to You our sins.*

Gracious God; our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips are afraid to name  
and what our hearts can no longer bear.

Set us free from a past we cannot change,  
open us to a future in which we can be changed  
and give us the grace to grow more and more  
in your likeness and image.

We pray this In Jesus' name, who taught us to pray,

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Music Ministry

## Family Focus

Hymn #256 Now the green blade rises

## Prayer for Illumination

## Scriptures

### Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

Let Israel say:

**“His love endures forever.”**

**The Lord is my strength and my defense<sup>[a]</sup>;  
he has become my salvation.**

Shouts of joy and victory  
resound in the tents of the righteous:

“The Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!

**The Lord’s right hand is lifted high;  
the Lord’s right hand has done mighty things!”**

I will not die but live,  
and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

**The Lord has chastened me severely,  
but he has not given me over to death.**

Open for me the gates of the righteous;  
I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord  
through which the righteous may enter.**

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

**The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;**

the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

**The Lord has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.**

### Matthew 28:1-10 Jesus Has Risen

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his

disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you". So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings", he said. They came to him, clasped 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".

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Greetings"

Hymn #259 This joyful Eastertide

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology #661

We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayer of Dedication

Mission Moment

Prayers of the People [Response - God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.]

Closing Hymn #258 Thine be the glory

Benediction

Benediction Song

Musical Postlude