Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Today is the Feast of feasts—Easter. Today Christians around the world celebrate Jesus’s glorious resurrection from the dead. The resurrection of Christ has been a focal point of Christian confession since the early church; Christians have understood the resurrection to be the central witness of God’s radical action in human history. Jesus, God incarnate, went to the depths of the earth and overcame the power of death that we might have life eternal. Today the joy of an empty tomb erupts from us in praise of Jesus, the one who sits at the right hand of God in whom we too are raised as new creation.
Gathering
Opening Voluntary

Resurrection, from *Symphonie Passion, Op. 23*  
Marcel Dupré  
(1886–1971)

Greeting and Announcements

Minister: Christ is risen!  
People: He is risen indeed!

*Processional Hymn 302

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today  
EASTER HYMN

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Minister: O Christ, in your resurrection, the heavens and the earth rejoice. Alleluia! By your resurrection you broke open the gates of hell, and destroyed sin and death.  
People: Forgive us, free us, and make us victorious over sin.  
Minister: By your resurrection you raised the dead, and brought us from death to life.  
People: Guide us in the way of eternal life.  
Minister: By your resurrection you confounded your guards and executioners, and filled the disciples with joy.  
People: Give us joy to serve you faithfully.  
Minister: By your resurrection you proclaimed good news to the women and apostles, and brought salvation to the whole world.  
People: Direct our lives as your new creation.  
Minister: Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you,  
People: Amen.  

The minister speaks words of assurance.

*Peace | All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.

Minister: The Peace of the risen Christ be with you.  
People: And also with you.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Father of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and resurrection hope, and send your Spirit now to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

First Lesson

Colossians 3:1–4  
*All rise as able*
Poem

Easter Dawn

Malcolm Guite
(b. 1957)

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question ‘Why,
Why are you weeping?’, or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply
‘They took my love away, my day is night’
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.


Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Join the cantor in chanting the verses in bold.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.
Let Israel now proclaim,
“God’s mercy endures forever.”

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.
There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:

The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me sorely;
but he did not hand me over to death.
Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

“This is the gate of the Lord;
who is righteous may enter.”
I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
**Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon

**Response**

*Response Hymn 308*

Thine Be the Glory  

**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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Call to Prayer**

Minister:  The Lord be with you.
People:  And also with you.
Minister:  Let us pray.

Prayers of the People  |  The congregation responds to each petition:

People:  Hear our prayer.

**Offering: Giving to COVID-19 Relief**

**Offertory Solo**

The Call  

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872–1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.
Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joys in love.

_Text: George Herbert (1593-1633)_

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Thanksgiving**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Sending Forth**

**Benediction**

*Closing Processional Hymn*

_All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name_

**Closing Voluntary**

TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Kathryn Lester-Bacon
*Director of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel*

The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
*Pastor to the Congregation at Duke Chapel*

PREACHER
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
*Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel*

MUSICIANS
Dr. Zebulon Highben
*Director of Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel*

Mr. Christopher Jacobson
*Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel*

TODAY’S OFFERING | This Easter we encourage you to give online to the COVID-19 relief funds set up by Duke University. There are three funds to aid our neighbors in this trying time. First, there is a Duke Student Assistance Fund to help undergraduate and graduate students. Second, there is the Duke Health COVID-19 Response Fund, which addresses the needs of Duke Health patients, caregivers, and students impacted by the virus, and to help accelerate the research already underway to combat the virus. Third, there is the Duke-Durham Fund, which works with local area non-profits to help support the most vulnerable among us. Learn more and give at coronavirus.duke.edu/together-duke-giving-back.

EASTER LILIES | Today’s Easter lilies are made possible by the generosity of the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Chapel Endowment.