Cahaba Springs Presbyterian Church Resurrection of the Lord, April 12, 2020

Prelude

Easter Dialogue, Gilbert M. Martin

Call to Worship

One: The stone was rolled away.

All: Christ is Risen!

One: The tomb was found empty.

All: Christ is Risen!

One: The angel said, "Do not be afraid."

All: Christ is Risen!

One: No matter where we are, we proclaim now and always,

All: Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Instrumental Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today Lyra Davidica, arr. J. Purifoy; **Joe Carter**, organ, **Kay Carter**, piano

Prayer of Confession

We confess to You, O Risen Christ, that we need resurrection more than ever. We need new life now. Guide us to find the seeds of new life in the midst of the world we are in. Call us to perceive where the stone is being rolled away. Break us open to the world even while we keep ourselves safe. Remind us that the resurrection, the new life in You, begins here and now with us. Help us to boldly declare that Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed. Alleluia, amen!

Scripture

OT: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

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."

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.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

NT: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sermon

Pastor McLeod: Resurrection Now!

Piano Reflection

Just As I Am/The Old Rugged Cross, arr. Martha S. Kelsey

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee, Hymn to Joy L. van Beethoven arr. J. Purifoy, **Joe Carter**, organ, **Kay Carter**, piano