

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, like the women at the tomb on the first Easter, we come out of our darkness and into your light.

We come out of emptiness to enter your fullness.

We come out of our hopelessness to find your joy.

We come out of our confusion to seek your peace.

We come with all that we are, yearning to be accepted.

We come at your invitation to celebrate your risen life and to praise you as Lord.

HYMN

"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

-1-

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
All creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
See, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
Bring a taste of love unknown.**

-2-

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.**

EASTER PRAYER *(in unison)*

When everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again, your love broke through. Your love was too strong, too wide, too deep for death to hold. The sparks cast by your love dance and spread and burst forth with resurrection light. Gracious God, we praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus. We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection. We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today. We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24

MEDITATION

Rev. Valerie Hicks

HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

**Jesus Christ is risen 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!**

BENEDICTION

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Please join us for our fellowship breakfast following the Sunrise Service. Also, we invite our visitors to join us for our Easter Day Worship Service, which will be held at 10:00 AM in the Church Sanctuary. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at this service. If you are visiting with us today and would like more information about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our elders.

Bethpage Presbyterian Church

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Bethpage Presbyterian Church**