



# United Intergenerational Ministry

## Easter Sunrise Worship

### State of the Cross:

### "Victory!"

Based on 1 Corinthians 15:57: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Worship Leader's Guide

### Preparations

1. Reproduce the Worship Bulletin for Easter Sunrise Worship.
2. For Interactive Lesson: Collect items that do not last: fruit, bread, candy, toothpaste, a toy, etc.
3. Make craft instructions and supplies available as you desire.
4. Make sure your Candle Cross is set up, but do not light any of the candles.

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### The Candle Cross

**Announce!** This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**Explain:** We light the candles on the cross today in celebration and to signify that Christ has risen from the dead, turning darkness into light and awaking our hearts with gladness.

During the Opening Hymn, light all the candles including the Easter Candle.

Opening Hymn: Encourage children and those with sight or any reading challenges to listen to the words of this hymn and those with hearing challenges to read the words of this hymn and be blessed by the message

**"Awake, My Heart, With Gladness "** LSB 467/ TLH 192/ LW 128

Invocation: Read or ask volunteers of all ages to read the verses. Remember, you can have very young readers by reading a few words to them at a time that they can repeat after you. Share that teens and children often feel excluded, so UIM specifically includes them in this Invocation. If you choose to do them, explain that the action options of three stomps and three claps are done in honor of the Trinity, and ALL shouting ALLELUIA is done in celebration. Remind worshipers to cue children to respond and point to responses for those with hearing challenges to help them participate. Even practice the response one or two times to introduce it to children.

Action Option: For continual rejoicing on this Day of Resurrection, any time you choose, ask generations to shout ALLELUIA! and stamp and clap as directed below each time they hear you shout ALLELUIA! **This guide suggests using this action option several times in this service.**

**Response:** Men, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Stamp feet three times.*)  
Women, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Clap hands three times.*)  
All Generations shout: **ALLELUIA!**

Leader: We begin in the name of God the Father, whose Son rose from the grave today! **Response.**  
Leader: We begin in the name of God the Son. He has risen! He has risen indeed! **Response.**  
Leader: We begin in the name of God the Holy Spirit, who keeps us living in resurrection victory! **Response**

## Psalm of Rejoicing: **Adapted from Psalm 108**

The responses can be read by the congregation in a traditional style in unison and verses read by one leader. To read this Psalm UIM style, ask volunteers of all ages to read the verses. Remember you can have very young readers by reading a few words to them at a time that they can repeat after you. It is always good to practice the response with children before you begin. Ask those sitting near the hearing challenged to point to the response when it should be said to help them participate. Add celebration to this service by using the action option response from the Invocation.

**Response:** I will sing and make melody with all my being! (*Option: Action response from Invocation.*)

<b>Verse 1:</b>	Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!	<b>Response</b>
<b>Verse 2:</b>	I will give thanks to You, O Lord; I will sing praises to You among the nations.	<b>Response</b>
<b>Verse 3:</b>	For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.	<b>Response</b>
<b>Verse 4:</b>	Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let Your glory be over all the earth!	<b>Response</b>

A Hymn of Confession and Absolution: Verse 1 and 2 are sung by ALL

### "We Confess All Our Sins To You"

Sung to the Tune of "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461/TLH 200/ LW 264 *Tune: Public Domain*

#### Confession

1. We confess all o-ur sins t-o You, All of the wrong things that we do.  
Through Your blood wa-sh o-ur si-ns a-way, All this in Jesus', name we pray.

#### Absolution

2. Through Your death and Yo-ur ris- ing, You Wash all our sins like morning dew.  
Gone is ev-il wh-ich wo-uld de-stroy. Your victory brings saving joy!

#### Options for Readings:

- *Option 1:* Worship Leader reads all readings.
- *Option 2:* Invite different generations to read the first two readings during the service. Remember, you can help very young readers by reading words to them that they can repeat after you. Always have the Worship Leader read the Gospel to give it reverent significance.
- *Option 3:* Invite all generations to repeat the words of the first two readings a few words at a time in unison to include all generations.

#### Notes:

- Always remind readers to state chapter and verse after every reading to teach generations where these passages are located so they can use them in their times of need.
- The readings are made shorter intentionally so that they can be read more easily by all ages.

#### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25:8-9

8 He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of His people He will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.9 It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

#### New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Add action option response:

- Response:** Men, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Stamp feet three times.*)  
Women, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Clap hands three times.*)  
All Generations shout: **ALLELUIA!**

**Hymn of Victory:** To include children, invite and encourage those sitting near them to help them listen for and sing the words that are the same at the beginning and end of each verse. This and any kind of repetition in worship can also allow others with sight or learning challenges to participate. Encourage those with any challenges that keep them from singing this hymn to listen to the words and those with hearing challenges to read the words of this hymn as it is sung and be blessed by the message.

**"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"** LSB 490/ TLH 201/ LW 139

**The Gospel Reading:** Ask generations to stand out of reverence (1) for words that our Lord actually said when He walked on earth or (2) for words that were said about Him. *Option:* For deeper effect, process with a cross to the middle of the center aisle and read the Gospel.

Read John 11:25-26:

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

**Creed:** Type in the page number from the hymnal for the Creed you will be using.

Communion Service: Nicene Creed (LSB back page, TLH pg. 22, LW pg. 166)

Non-Communion Service: Apostle's Creed. (LSB back page, TLH pg.12, LW pg 167)

**UIM Interactive Lesson for All Generations: Everlasting Victory**

Ahead of Time Collect items that do not last: fruit, bread, candy, toothpaste, a toy, etc.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** If you have children present, invite them to come forward to help them participate in Worship, but present this lesson even if you do not have children present. UIM Interactive Lessons are for all generations. As you present this lesson, speak to the children but bring the entire congregation into your conversation.

- Hold up the fruit and ask what happens to fruit over time.
- If no one else does, share that fruit dries up and spoils. As you hold up other items you have collected, add: bread molds, candy gets eaten, toothpaste gets used up, toys get broken, etc. In fact, most things on earth don't last: grass dies, flowers wilt, etc.
- Conclude: One day, even the earth will pass away. But there is one thing that will last forever. Every part of this service has been leading us to it, the everlasting victory Christ won for us. We will celebrate this victory in the remaining parts of our service. And remember, this is victory we can all take home and celebrate every day of our lives on earth and all the way to eternal life in heaven!
- *If children came forward*, ask them to return to their seats as the following hymn is sung.

**Sermon Hymn:** Encourage children and those with sight or any reading challenges to listen to the words of this hymn and those with hearing challenges to read the words of this hymn and be blessed by the message

**"He Is Arisen! Glorious Word!"** LSB 488/ TLH 189/ LW 520

**UIM Sermon: "We believe!"**

Based on John 11:25-26 (Our Gospel Reading):

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

**Introduction:** What is most wonderful about UIM Worship is that can involve all generations. Explain to generations that each time they hear the worship leader say **“Do you believe this?”** they should respond with the words **“We believe!”** This response is also the title of the sermon to make it easy to remember. Always remind children to listen for the worship leader’s cue so they can respond and participate. Give those with hearing challenges printed copies of the sermon or of this outline and ask those seated near them to point to the responses so they can respond right along with everyone else!. **If you have not been inviting responses, you may find it most effective to do so for this sermon.** If you are uncomfortable with having worshipers respond, you may say the following response yourself at the end of each section: **Believe this!**

I. This sermon teaches us how to share our faith and also give us opportunity to confess our faith because there are many people around us who need to hear about our faith in Christ and His victory. Whether we realize it or not, there are people suffering because they do not think Christ’s victory is for them. They believe their sins are too great. Some haven’t been coming to church for a long time, so when they need God, they think He won’t even know them or will be angry with them. Then, there are even those who believe God is punishing them with the trouble they are experiencing. More people than we know are afraid of God or simply do not know how to approach Him. As we talk about our faith, these people can gain a different understanding of God. These are people for whom Christ died and rose again victorious, but they will never know it unless we tell them. God’s plan of salvation has come, and we need tell them that it has come for FOR THEM! However, before we can bring them to Christ for faith to believe, we must believe in the True God and that He created the world and that He redeemed the world by giving up His only Son.

Leader: **“Do you believe this?”** Generations: **“We believe!”**

II. God’s plan for our salvation was carried out in His perfect order down through generations. After the fall into sin, God promised a Savior in Genesis 3:15. Then, God promised Abraham the Savior would come from His children or descendants ( Genesis 12:3, 18:18), from his son Isaac ( Genesis 17:19, Matthew 1:2), and Isaac’s son Jacob, who was called Israel (Numbers 24:17, Luke 3:34), and specifically from Judah, the son of Jacob (Genesis 49:10, Luke 3:33). From Judah’s line, King David was born, and from David’s line, our Savior was born (Isaiah 9:7, Luke 1:32-33). We will rarely, if ever, have the opportunity to share every aspect of God’s plan with people we meet. But we do need to know God’s plan and how it was carried out in His perfect order and time and throughout generations. But most importantly, we need to believe Jesus was born and died and rose to save all people.

Leader: **“Do you believe this?”** Generations: **“We believe!”**

III. *Share the story of our Savior’s birth, even read it from Luke 2.* It is hard to believe, because it has been around for a long time, that there are people who do not know this story. So, if you have opportunity, read it to people around you right from the Bible. If you can’t share the whole story share some verses or even one verse. If all else fails, simply share that Christ was born, and not only that He was born but that you believe He was born. What remains the most important key to all sharing of our faith and God’s Word is that we believe every word the Bible says.

Leader: **“Do you believe this?”** Generations: **“We believe!”**

IV. Because Jesus died and rose again, death no longer holds its sting, which we read in our Old and New Testament Readings. This means that we can rejoice in His victory and have no fear of death! Yet, many people all around us today, even some who believe in Jesus, fear death or have become grief stricken over the death of a loved one. For relief from fear and comfort in sorrow, they need to be led to Jesus for faith that believes so they will never die as John 11:25-26, our Gospel Reading and sermon text, proclaim. But again, we need to do more than say all who believe in Jesus will never die. We need to believe it.

Leader: **“Do you believe this?”** Generations: **“We believe!.”**

V. How can we be so sure we believe? Because Jesus did not stay in the grave! He has risen! He is alive! There were eye witnesses! His disciples were there and they wrote it all down for us (Luke 24:6-7 and Mark.16:6-7). The words of the Bible are the Holy Scriptures, but they also contain an accurate record of human history. They detail all that God did and continues to do for all who believe and for all those God desires and works hard to draw to Himself. How will people know God desires for them to come to Him and that He is even waiting? They will know when we tell them what we believe. Easter is a time to tell them by sharing the absolute joy in our hearts over the resurrection of our Savior, sharing that He is the loving and personal Savior of all who walk into His waiting arms, and most importantly that He is our personal Savior because that is who He is.

Leader: **“Do you believe this?”** Generations: **“We believe!”**

Leader: Then, share what you believe. Amen.

Offering: Taken according to custom. To add a stewardship or any hymn, type the number in your bulletin.

Prayers: You may use the following prayer petitions provided or your own prayers. The words to the prayer do not need to be printed in your bulletin. Do print the response if you choose to use it. Responses generate the participation of all generations. However, using responses some weeks and not other weeks can add variety and also meet both the needs of those who like responses and those who prefer not to say responses. If possible, pass out a printed copy of your prayers for those who cannot hear well or at all. This will help to include them and help them feel this worship is reaching out to them. Remind those sitting near them to help especially children respond and to point to responses for the hearing challenged. Conclude your prayers with the Lord’s Prayer unless it is part of your communion liturgy.

## Prayer of the Church for Easter Sunday - Sunrise Worship

*If possible, worshipers may kneel in prayer.*

Leader: Face the congregation and announce: On this glorious day, we pray through faith in our resurrected Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for all people according to their needs. Each time you hear **“We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,”** please respond with **“Our risen Lord and Savior.”**

Leader: Turn to the altar and pray: Father of all believers, help and strengthen us to believe in You more strongly every day through Your Son, whose suffering, death, and resurrection assures us of our own resurrection from death to everlasting life with You in heaven.

Leader: **We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,** Generations: **Our risen Lord and Savior!**

Leader: God our Father, You have reconciled sinners to Yourself through Christ’s death and resurrection. Grant us opportunity and give us the faith to believe and the words to share our faith in You with the people around us, the people You send to us every day.

Leader: **We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,** Generations: **Our risen Lord and Savior!**

Leader: Risen and reigning Savior, who died and rose in all glory to gain victory over sin and death, give us a constant and growing understanding of how to help all those around us know the joy of faith and salvation that we experience through Your victory.

Leader: **We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,** Generations: **Our risen Lord and Savior!**

Leader: Compassionate Father, Your Son came to save our souls in heaven. In His name, we ask for healing for those who are ill in body or spirit on earth, ( especially\_\_\_\_\_ ). Extend Your compassion to all who mourn, ( especially\_\_\_\_\_ ). Grant Your mercy to all those who need Your help and grant patience to all who await the time when You will come again in all Your glory to take all believers to heaven so they will live and never die.

Leader: **We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,** Generations: **Our risen Lord and Savior!**

Leader: Spirit of God, continue to instill and strengthen faith in believing souls until every knee on earth and in heaven bows down at the name of Jesus. We pray that as we remember the glory of Christ's Resurrection and share it, many more knees will bow and tongues confess that Jesus is Lord from generation to generation.

Leader: **We believe and pray in the name of Jesus,** Generations: **Our risen Lord and Savior!**

Leader: All these things we lay at Your throne trusting that You hear and answer as we  
[boldly say **AMEN!**]  
or  
[join together in praying the prayer Jesus taught His disciples to pray: "Our Father who art in...."]

*[Holy Communion may be celebrated according to custom.]*

Note: You may choose a Communion Hymn, but conclude with the following UIM Lenten Hymn.

UIM Lenten Easter Theme Hymn: "To The Cross of Christ I Journey" Verse 10

Encourage children and those with sight or any reading challenges to listen to the words of this hymn and those with hearing challenges to read the words of this hymn and be blessed by the message.

Sung to the public domain tune of "Christ the Life of All the Living" TLH 151, *Tune: Public Domain*

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10. Now I see His resurrection; Empty tomb shines bright for me.  
Gone the pain and cruel rejection; In it's place there's victory!  
Shouts of joy and crown of glory, This is His salvation story!  
Say with me and shout it too, "He's risen for me and you!"

Benediction: *Pastors may use "you" and Worship Leaders use "us"*

May God be with (you/us) and bless (you/us) as we celebrate Christ's resurrection!.

May His face shine upon (you/us) as we claim the victory and crown of life He won and offers to each one of us through His suffering, death, and glorious resurrection! Amen.

Closing Easter Hymn: To include children, invite and encourage those sitting near them to help them listen for and sing the alleluias that are the same at the beginning and end of each verse. This and any kind of repetition in worship can also allow others with sight or learning challenges to participate. Encourage those with any challenges that keep them from singing this hymn to listen to the words and those with hearing challenges to read the words of this hymn as it is sung and be blessed by the message.

**"The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done" LSB 464/ TLH 210/ LW 143**

**BEFORE WORSHIPERS LEAVE:**

- Encourage generations to continue to meditate on and memorize the passages in this service to strengthen their faith during the week and any time they need God's help and strength for their faith and lives.
- Make craft instructions and supplies available as you desire.

Read the Gospel Reading one more time:

**25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.  
Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live,  
26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.  
Do you believe this?"**

Wait for generations to respond: **We believe,**

Even add action option response by shouting: **ALLELUIA!**

**Response:** Men, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Stamp feet three times.*)  
Women, Teens, & Children: **Alleluia!** (*Clap hands three times.*)  
All Generations shout: **ALLELUIA!**

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