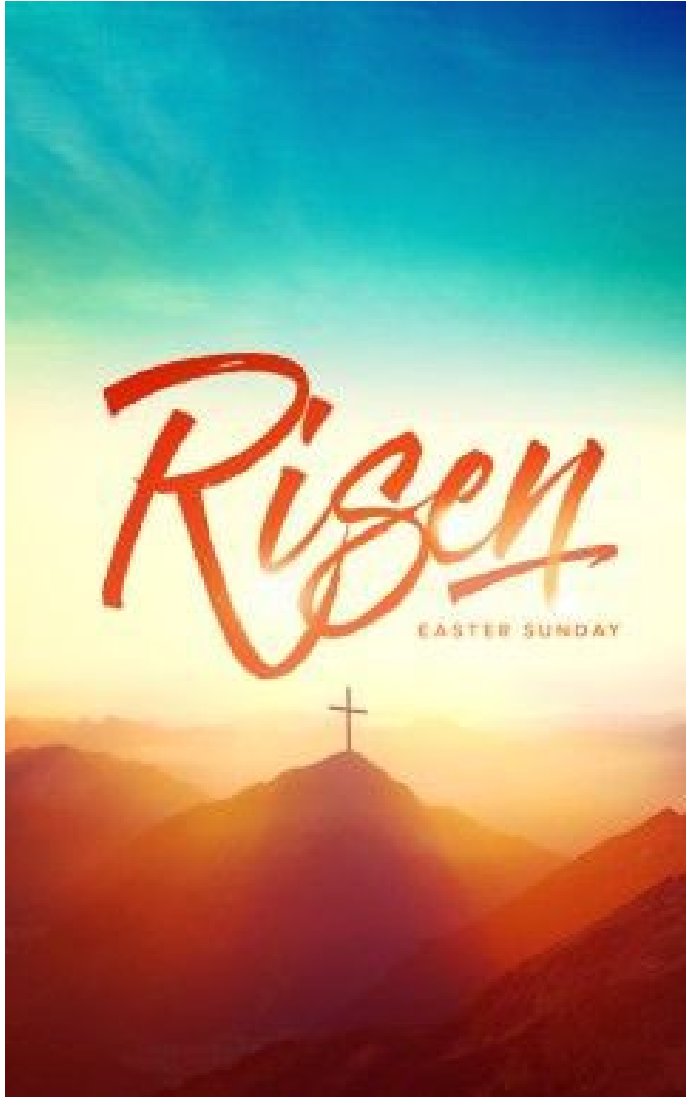


31 March 2024

Sunrise Service

**St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ**



**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326**

St. John's Evangelical Church

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Office: 419-673-7278

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“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Easter Sunrise

March 31, 2024

Greeting

This morning, this joyous morning, we journey to the tomb with Mary Magdalene and discover the stone is rolled away. An empty grave remains to prove my Savior lives. With joy, we discover that Christ Jesus has risen. Come, let us offer praise and thanks to God for fulfilling the resurrection promise.

Call to Worship **Psalm 114:7-8** (part of the Hallel)

L: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,

C: at the presence of the God of Jacob,

L: who turns the rock into a pool of water,

C: the flint into a spring of water.

Easter Acclamation

L: Christ has risen!

C: Christ has risen indeed.

L: Faith, hope, and joy are alive.

C: A new age is dawning, and death cannot harm us.

L: Our Heavenly Father, God of all creation, we praise You.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the resurrection and eternal life, we have gathered in this garden to worship You and celebrate Your victory.

L: O Holy Spirit, as witnesses of Christ's

Resurrection, be with us now—

C: Uplift our hearts and voices as we sing:

1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

2 O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. [Refrain]

3 In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. [Refrain]

4 To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
where His glory forever I'll share. [Refrain]

Gathering Prayer

Loving God, we gather in the early morning to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. We have been mourning and weeping believing that He has been taken from us. Instead, You meet us in the garden of new life. Here, in this sacred place, we discover that You are alive, that sin and death cannot defeat You. Now our tears of sorrow turn to tears of joy as we experience Your presence among us. Today, we begin to understand that joy comes from grief. You call us to go into the world to share this good news, and because we are not left alone, we can pray Your prayer... **The Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors)

Scripture

Proverbs 8:1-8

John 20:1-18

Sermon

Wisdom Calls, Christ Calls

Closing Prayer

Lord, we have so much to be thankful for this Easter morning. In the chill of the morning air, we do feel the warm blessing of Your Spirit. We can rejoice this day because our tendency toward disbelief is overcome by our capacity for faith. We are truly amazed that a cross of crucifixion has been transformed into a symbol of new life, a symbol of eternal life.

We are thankful that You come to greet us in a garden of hope, trust, and faith. We thank You that a dark and empty tomb has emerged into a garden of light and living. In all our days, we shall live for Christ, the resurrected and risen Savior. Amen.

Easter Hymn

He Lives

1. I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives,
salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading thru all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last. [Refrain]

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing,
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind. [Refrain]

Benediction

The tomb is empty,
Christ has risen.

As you journey in faith,
may your life be full,
your love be abundant,
and your hope be eternal.

Live this day and always for Christ Jesus
because the Risen Christ lives in you.

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

L: Christ is risen!

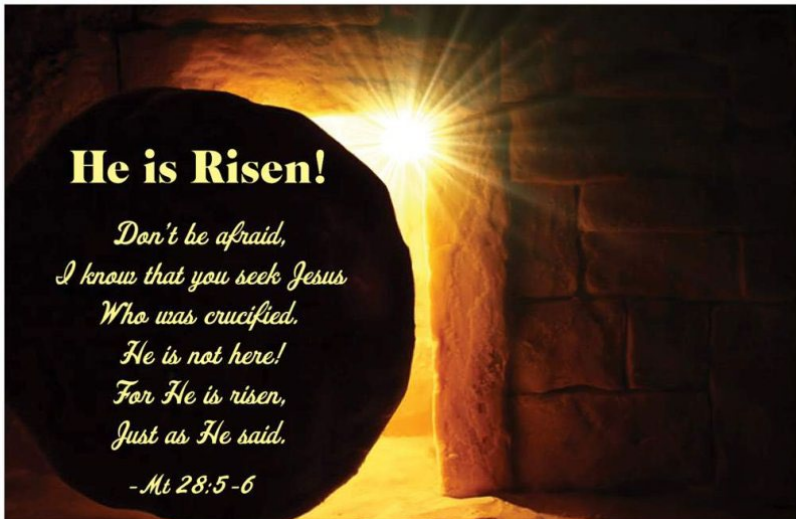
C: He is risen indeed!

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

L: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Scripture (ESV):

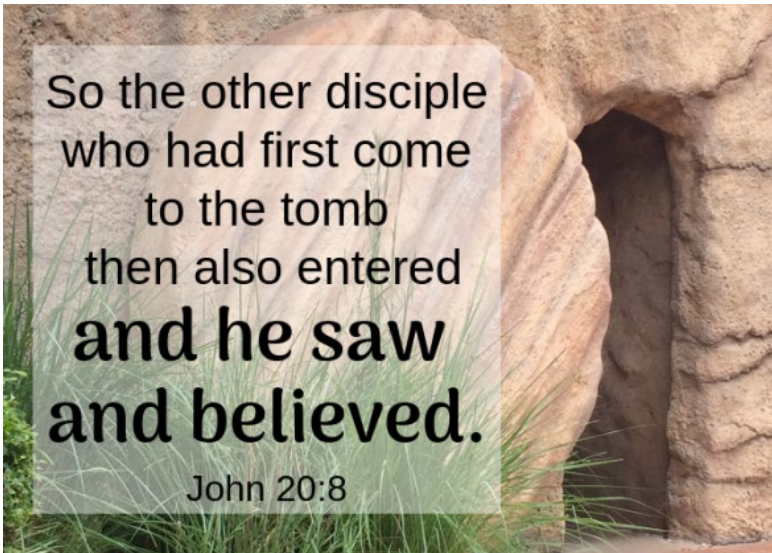
Proverbs 8:1-8:

- ¹Does not wisdom call?
Does not understanding raise her voice?
²On the heights beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
³beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:
⁴“To you, O men, I call,
and my cry is to the children of man.
⁵O simple ones, learn prudence;
O fools, learn sense.
⁶Hear, for I will speak noble things,
and from my lips will come what is right,
⁷for my mouth will utter truth;
wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
⁸All the words of my mouth are righteous;
there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.”

John 20:1-18:

¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² 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.” ³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ 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.” ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” 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.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to Him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for 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.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that He had said these things to her.





EASTER SUNDAY

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

March 31 - 10 am

Week at a Glance

- Today, 3/31: 7:00 AM Community Easter Sunrise – Boy Scout Lake
10:00 AM Worship Service
- Tuesday, 4/2: 7:00 PM NA Meeting – Chapel
1:00 PM First Tuesday – Blanchard Place
6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery – Chapel
- Wednesday, 4/3: 7:00 PM Bible Study
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- Thursday, 4/4: 6:30 PM Cub Scouts – Chapel
- Friday, 4/5: 11:30 AM Friday w/ Friends – Jac N Dos (Kenton)
Office Closed during afternoon hours (12:30-2:30)
- Saturday, 4/6: 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study – Chapel
9-10:30 The Chosen Bible Study – FH

