

# Easter Sunday

"He is risen so we, too, may rise."  
Downtown United Presbyterian Church  
Lakeside at Lake Ontario, New York  
April 20, 2014

*Were you there? – Alan Jones*

Embracing God's Presence; Remembering in Prayer

In Song Together: *Joy Comes With the Dawn*

Unison

Joy comes with the dawn, joy comes with the

morn - ing sun, joy springs from the tomb and

scat - ters the night with her song, joy comes with the dawn.

Final

1 Weep - ing may come, weep - ing may  
2 Sor - row will turn, sor - row will  
3 We will re - ioice. we will re -

come in the night, when dark shad - ows cloud our sight.  
turn in - to song, and God's laugh - ter make us strong.  
joice, and give praise, to the One who brings us grace.

### **In Prayer Together: *Into the Mystery***

The music of light always follows the *basso* of darkness.

We are made into this rhythm, made to live  
while strumming the brightness of creation,  
even when – *especially when* –  
the chords fall broken, silent and hard.

*Eil*, the Creator God that Jesus called to from the cross,  
knew *hard* the day that Jesus was tortured and died.

Abba, the God Jesus loved and who loved Jesus –  
the God who is wildly in love with us, knew that whatever the  
suffering –  
whatever the dark and cold and brokenness of the tomb might  
be –  
all would be overcome by “joy in the morning.”

That just as light always reveals the warmth and wholeness and hope of the  
Universe,

So, too, it ignites the strumming of eternal songs of love, songs that  
lift us in our sorrow and in joy,  
and assure us of the immeasurable presence and power  
of God in Jesus and God in us.

Yes, we, too, are risen indeed.

Yes, thank, God and let us continue to worship this Loving God, together.

--Ray Bagnuolo

### ***Midnight Sharpens, Starfields, Fading* – Alan Jones**

#### **In Prayer Together: *A Prayer of Confession***

God, we confess that we need help living alive in your presence. Help to embody the teachings of Jesus into assurance and action. Help to trust the Holy Spirit, when confused and longing for guidance.

God, Jesus and Spirit: all around us. Fully present in one another. Available. Always. Grace-full. Always. We confess that we often forget you are so with us.

We say what you already know: we hide our doubts and fears – trying to assume “Fine, we are fine!” when our hearts are really in turmoil. We confess we need to be more “real,” to share our hearts and hear yours in the company you have given us, this side of the tomb: this promised, wonderful side of the tomb.

--Ray Bagnuolo

### **Easter Sunday *IS* the Assurance of Pardon**

**Gospel Reading: *Matthew 28: 1-10; 16-20*<sup>1</sup>**

Now, in the closing, that is the evening of the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, came Maryam of Magdala and the other Maryam that they might see the grave. And behold, a great earthquake occurred for a Messenger of YHWH descended from heaven and came and rolled away the boulder from the entrance, and the Messenger was sitting upon it. And the Messenger's appearance was like lightning with clothes as white as snow. And from fear of the Messenger, those who were watching trembled and they became like the dead. But the Messenger answered and said to the women, "Do not fear, for I know it is Y'shua who was executed on the stake, you seek. He is not here. For he has risen as he said. Come and see the place in which he was laid. Now go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead. And behold he goes before you to Galeela. There you will see him. Behold, I have told you. And they departed quickly from the grave with fear and with great joy and were running that they might tell the disciples. And behold, Y'shua met up with them and said to them, "Peace to you." And they drew near him and grabbed his feet and worshipped him. Then Y'shua said to them, "Don't fear. Rather, go and tell my brothers to go to Galeela, and there they will see me. Now the eleven disciples went to the mountain where Y'shua had arranged for them to meet. And when they saw him, they worshipped him, but some of them were doubting. And Y'shua drew near and spoke with them and said to them, "All authority is given to me in heaven and on earth, and as God has sent me, I send you. Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations and immerse them in the name of Mother/Father, and of the Son, and of the Ruach haKodesh. And teach them to keep all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the end of the world. Amen."


**Reflection: *Out of the tomb; now what?* – Ray Bagnuolo**

[Link to Reflection](#)


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<sup>1</sup> Translation by Andrew Gabriel Roth of the Peshitta [Aramaic]: The Syriac Vulgate of the New Testament.

In Song Together: *The Day of Resurrection*




1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2 Our hearts be free of - e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God!  
the Christ in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
and, listen - ing to the ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain  
let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
Christ's own "All hail" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ in - deed is ris - en, our Joy that has no end.

**Invitation to the Eucharist Feast!** *All are invited and welcome!*

**We pray as Jesus taught us to pray... Luke 11:1-4**

"Pray then in this way," Jesus said: Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit come! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Blessings Upon You**

*This is the Day That God Has Made – Alan Jones*