

* THE HYMN OF PARTING

The Strife Is O'er

"Victory"

**The strife is o'er, the battle done,
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!**

**The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed:
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!**

**The three sad days are quickly sped,
Christ rises glorious from the dead:
All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!**

**Lord, by Your wounds on Calvary
From death's dread sting
Your servants free,
That we may live eternally. Alleluia!**

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE & BENEDICTION

Leader: Christ is risen for you this day!

People: **Christ is Risen!**

Going Forth in God's Love

* THE POSTLUDE

Ode to Joy

arr. Thomas

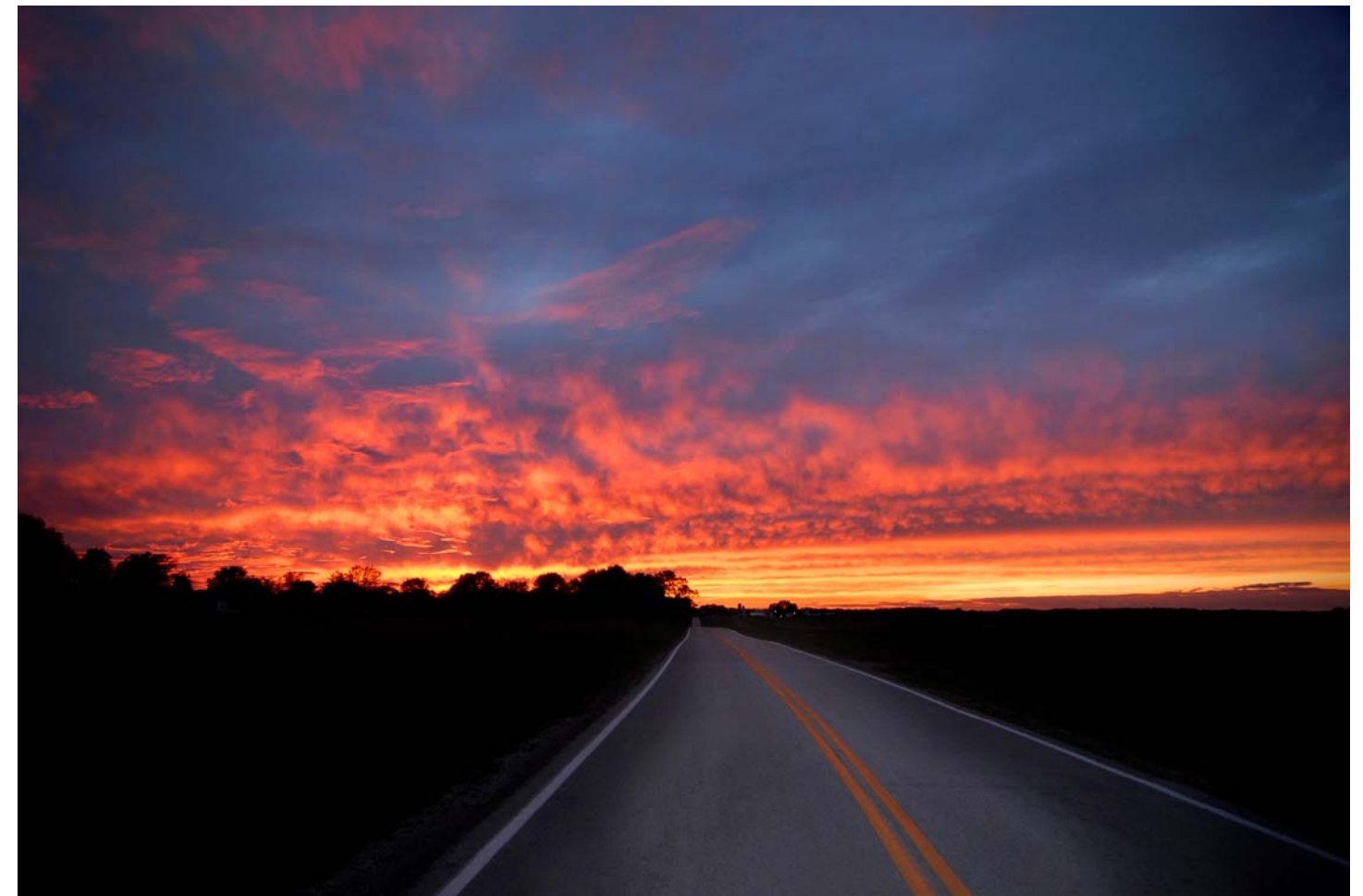
* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

We welcome and thank our guest instrumentalists this morning: Grant Davis, David Wall, Trumpets; Brian Plitnik, Trombone, and Kendra Biser, Bass-Trombone.

Special thanks to Sue Rudd, Carolyn Mathews, Joe Aurigemma, and Mike Levitas for worship arrangements, refreshments, and set up/clean up for this service.

Please join us for coffee and refreshments following worship. A basket is provided for a free-will offering to help defray expenses.

You are also invited to join us at First Presbyterian Church at 11 Washington Street, for our traditional Easter Morning Worship Service at 11:00 am.



**Easter Sunrise Service
Rocky Gap State Park
April 4, 2010 at 7 am**

First Presbyterian Church
11 Washington St. Cumberland, Maryland 21502

301-777-3700
fpc-cumberland.org

**Easter Sunrise Service
April 4, 2010
Coming Together in Christ**

THE PRELUDE *Simple Gifts* arr. Jari Villanueva

Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The long day stretched into night and time crept onward towards the new day. With the first gold of dawn came a resurrection, a new hope that grew with the rising sun, and went out to a waiting world. Christ is risen; He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Men: Risen in quiet and mysterious darkness before the chorus of the dawn. Alleluia, Christ is risen;

All: He is risen indeed.

Women: Risen with glory and grace in reserve, and authority beyond measure. Alleluia, Christ is risen;

All: He is risen indeed.

Men: Risen to prove that violence is no solution; to offer us peace and life and in all its fullness. Alleluia, Christ is risen;

All: He is risen indeed.

Pastor: For God has taken into his own flesh the sin of the world. The last laugh is God's laugh; for freedom comes beyond the cross, for peace comes beyond the crushing of life. The first laugh and the last laugh are God's. And God has made laughter for us. Alleluia, Christ is risen;

All: He is risen indeed.

* HYMN OF PRAISE *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* "Easter Hymn"

**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!**

**But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love, Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(together)*

Lord, in this moment we are gathered welcoming love's return. Our hearts are lifted, we open our eyes and we welcome love. The tomb is empty, the stone laid back. The womb is full and the stones cry out for joy. Risen One, stand among us, speak your words of peace, release us from our fears and heal us from our wounds. Forgive our betrayals, our denials of your love, that we may participate in your just living.

Hearing God's Word

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

The Day of Resurrection!

"Lancashire"

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil, That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light;
And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth the song begin,
Let the round world keep triumph, And all that is there-in;
Let all things seen and unseen Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen, Our joy that hath no end.**

READINGS:

Galatians 3:26-29, Mark 16:1-8

SERMON:

"A Hard Road to Glory"

Rev. John Dillon

Our Response to God's Love

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Leader: Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty and terror; you gave birth to all that we know. Hallowed be your name.

Women: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a cradle announced that you had come among us, and you were one of us. Hallowed be your name.

Men: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: you shouldered and suffered the cross. Hallowed be your name.

Women: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied and destroyed you. Hallowed be your name.

Men: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: This morning, in the multi-colored company of your Church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us; so we pray,

**All: Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired;
new love where we have turned hard-hearted;
forgiveness where we feel hurt, and where we have been wounded; and the joy and freedom
of your Holy Spirit, where we are prisoners of ourselves.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.