



BCRC Family Worship Guide

April 4, 2026

Easter Sunday



On Sunday, the choir will sing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. Any of our congregation who would like to join the choir for this hymn may do so. You are invited to bring your own copy of the music if you have it.

Preparing for Morning Worship

This Sunday morning, Pastor Milgate will preach from the Gospel according to Luke. Take some time to read and think about this text as we approach the preaching of God's Word.

Luke 24:13-35

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵ And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he



Preparing for Morning Worship

This Sunday morning, Pastor Milgate will preach from the Gospel according to Luke. Take some time to read and think about this text as we approach the preaching of God's Word.

Luke 24:13-35

took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them.³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.



Songs, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

...Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord

Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:19-21

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Up from the Grave He Arose

My Hope is In the Lord

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed

Hallelujah Chorus



Approaching Worship

Before coming to God's house to hear His Word, prepare yourself and your family with prayer. The Puritans said we should dress our bodies for worship and our souls with prayer.

Pray for:

- *The conversion of sinners*
- *The edification of saints*
- *The glorification of God's triune name*
- *Listening ears and understanding hearts*
- *An outpouring of the Spirit's conviction, quickening, humbling, and comforting power to work through God's ordinances (Preaching, prayer, sacraments) in the fulfillment of His promises.*

-from "The Family at Church" by Joel R. Beeke

Liturgy Focus

Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn

God's Greeting

Song of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Assurance

Confession of our Faith

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Children's Blessing

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Song of Response

Parting Words

Doxology



Following Confession and the Assurance of God's grace, Calvin noted that the way is open for prayer. He writes,

“We can go boldly into the holy of holies to intercede for others, as well as ourselves, with the confidence that our Father hears us and delights in satisfying us with good things. Instead of wavering or dreading his presence, we are now confident that we are accepted children and co-heirs with our Elder Brother who is at his right hand.”

In response to this, author Michael Horton says,

“In the pastoral prayer, the minister intercedes on behalf of the church around the world, the secular rulers, and then on behalf of his own flock...Ministers intercede; they do not mediate. Like all believers, they have the privilege of bringing petitions before the covenant Lord through the only mediator, Jesus Christ.”

He goes on to point out that just as ministers represent God to the people as they proclaim Law and Gospel, they also represent the people to God as they pray. In other words, when the minister offers a prayer in public worship, it is as if he is speaking to God for the congregation. He is their representative. We are not listeners at this point, we are participating in agreement as he offers the prayer.

HEIDELBERG

CATECHISM

WEEKLY

Lord's Day 13

Q & A 33

Q. Why is he called God's "only begotten Son" when we also are God's children?

A. Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God.¹
We, however, are adopted children of God—
adopted by grace through Christ.²

¹ John 1:1-3, 14, 18; Heb. 1

² John 1:12; Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 1:5-6

Q & A 34

Q. Why do you call him "our Lord"?

A. Because—
not with gold or silver,
but with his precious blood—¹
he has set us free
from sin and from the tyranny of the devil,²
and has bought us, body and soul,
to be his very own.³

¹ 1 Pet. 1:18-19

² Col. 1:13-14; Heb. 2:14-15

³ 1 Cor. 6:20; 1 Tim. 2:5-6