Sunday, April 4, 2010

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**Lection Scripture:** John 11:25

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”
John 11:25 (King James Version)
Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

John 11:25-26 (The Message Bible)
“You don't have to wait for the End. I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives believing in me does not ultimately die at all. Do you believe this?”

Worship Planning Notes

- This year for Easter, why not have your children and youth do something far different than the usual Easter pageants. In addition to having them deliver Easter speeches or songs, let them recreate the song “He Lives In You” from the Lion King. It can be found online at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KBV_Y16yC4. The song delivers the message that we really want our children, and even adults, to leave the worship service knowing: Christ lives in them!

  Also, this musical, along with offering marvelous costumes, inserts an Afrocentric texture into your worship service. The costumes used in the musical are quite elaborate. So, give adequate time for creating them.

- Additionally, your Worship Arts Ministry should familiarize yourselves and the congregation with the origin of Easter. Easter has been set aside to direct society’s focus to the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We must remember to embrace and teach all aspects of the Resurrection. Resurrection yields life. Believers in Christ have a right to the tree of life because of the Resurrection. The worship arts ministry is to breathe the breath of life via sharing the Resurrection story in this worship service.

- Be creative. Use banners, drumming, incense, and décor that depict the theme of the resurrection season. Remember to employ all participants of your Worship Arts Ministry for this worship experience.

  Our task is simple: to facilitate an awareness of living to live again via the resurrected life of Jesus. Resurrection takes place each and every day that God gives. God presents a fresh start for all yielding opportunities via restoration, regeneration, resolution, and rejoicing.

1. Litany, Responsive Reading, or Invocation
(a) Litany

   A Christian Affirmation for Resurrection

Speaker 1: Resurrection is not a holiday but a Holy day for believers in Christ.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 2: Resurrection takes place in the spirit, soul, and body.
Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 3: We are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 4: Maintaining a Resurrection faith and heartfelt conviction means remembering that Jesus rose.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 5: The power of the Resurrection allows us to be redeemed and to forgive others as well as ourselves.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 6: We have the power, promise, and presence of the Resurrection to progress in our daily lives.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

Speaker 7: Having faith in the power of the Resurrection encourages believers in Christ to live holy lives.

Many: Christ got up from the grave and we too have the power to get up from our dead situations. We celebrate Christ!

[Note: Softly begin instrumental music to the song “At the Cross” (see 1(b) below).]

ALL: We thank God for the joy to live the saved life, and for the faith and courage to serve God as we go through the circumstances of life. Resurrection brings renewal, regeneration, and restoration to our lives throughout our lives.

(b) At the Cross. By Darrell Pitts

After the reading of the Litany, the song, “At the Cross” should be rendered. The media team and or the mime ministry may want to create a presentation to reflect the message of the lyrics of the song as a catalyst in connecting with those who do not believe in the Resurrection. Applicable Scripture references should be displayed throughout the presentation. Please note: If you decide not to do a live presentation, a prerecorded clip can be used.
(c) Libations
- Observe a moment of silence to acknowledge the Resurrection that took place on Golgotha’s Hill.
- Light candles in silence.
- Pouring Libations (water and oil) after each saying:
  - For the resurrection of Christ (Pour Libations)
  - For our ancestors (Pour Libations)
  - For those living with unbelief (Pour Libations)
  - For the glorious cloud of witnesses (Pour Libations)
  - For power, promise, and presence of the Resurrection (Pour Libations)

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs
(a) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither
(b) Christ Arose. Text and Tune by Robert Lowry
(c) Christ Is the Way. Text and Tune by Charles Albert Tindley
(d) Easter People, Raise Your Voices. By William M. James and Henry Smart
(e) I Know That My Redeemer Lives. By Samuel Medley. Tune, (DUKE STREET, LM), by John Hatton
(f) Low in the Grave He Lay. Text and Tune by Robert Lowry
(g) Rejoice. Text and Tune by Kenneth W. Lewis

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs
(a) Christ Has Risen from the Dead. Text and Tune by Anthony E. Jackson
(b) Christ the Lord Is Risen Today. Text: Victimae paschal laudes; Ascr. to Wipo of Burgundy. Tune, (VICTIMAE PASCALI)
(c) He Arose. Spiritual
(d) In the Garden. By C. Austin Miles
(e) Jesus Christ Has Risen Today. Text: St. 1, Surrexit Christus, Latin, 14th C.: Para. In Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; St. 2, 3, The Compleat Psalmodist, c. 1750, alt.: St. 4, by Charles Wesley. Tune, (EASTER HYMN)

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams
(a) Alpha and Omega. By Erasmus Mutanbira
(b) Come See Where He Lay. By Steven Roberts

(c) Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. By George Multrain. Trinidad and Tobago. Tune: Caribbean folk song. Arr. by Carlton R. Young

(d) He Decided to Die. By Margaret Douroux

(e) He Is Lord. By Ronnie Porter

(f) He Lives. By Alfred H. Ackley

(g) His Blood Washes Me. By O’Landa Draper

(h) I Know It Was the Blood. Anonymous

(i) Lord I Lift Your Name on High. By Tim Clifton and Rick Founds

(j) My Everything You Are. By Ernest L. Porter, Jr.

(k) Raised, He’s Been Raised from the Dead. By Gennifer Benjamin Brooks. Tune by Monya Davis Logan

(l) Since He Died for Me. Text and Tune by Margaret Douroux

(m) Thank You (Congregational Medley). By Christopher Lewis

5. Liturgical Dance Music
(a) For God So Loved the World. By Lanny Wolfe

(b) I Know It Was the Blood. By Dello Thedford

(c) I Know It Was the Blood. By Noel Hall, Fred Hammond, and Tommie Walker

(d) Why Did He Do It? By John Patrick Adams

(e) Wounded for Me. By Greg O’Quinn

(f) You Loved Me. By Keith Pelzer and Jill Scott

6. Anthems
(a) Sing to God a Joyful Song. By Robert Williams. Arr. by Lynn Trapp

(b) Our Risen Lord. By Timothy Dudley-Smith and Bob Moore

(c) Resurrection Jubilee. By Glenn Jones
(d) If They Ask You Why He Came. By Lena Johnson McLin. *For SATB choir*

7. **Modern Songs**
   (a) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither
   (b) He Lives in You. By Lebo M., Mark Mancina, and Jay Rifkin
   (c) I Shall Live. By Jason Nelson
   (d) Jesus I Love You. By Norman Hutchins
   (e) Jesus Is Alive. By Cedrick Ford
   (f) Live. By Jason Nelson
   (g) New Life. By John P. Kee
   (h) Rescued Me. By Luke Mercer, Jr.
   (i) Jesus. By Latoska Travis and Daniel Witherspoon
   (j) The Lamb. Text and Tune by V. Michael McKay
   (k) The Redeemed Praise. By V. Michael McKay
   (l) He Rose. By JJ Hairston
   (m) You Raise Me Up. By Lovland Graham

8. **Music for Children and Youth**
   (a) At the Cross. By John P. Kee
   (b) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither. Arr. by Deitrick Haddon
   (c) Because of Calvary. By John P. Kee
   (d) Da’ Blood. By Luke Austin
   (e) He Is Lord. By Antun Foster
   (f) He Lives. By Germaine Dwyer
   (g) Jesus. By John P. Kee
   (h) Love. By Kirk Franklin
(i) Ransomed. By Micah Stampley and Heidi Stampley

(j) Saved. By John P. Kee

9. Song or Instrumental for the Offertory Period
(a) It Wasn’t the Nails. By Milton Biggham and Jerry Mannery

(b) Let’s Celebrate (He Is Risen). By Timothy Wright and Paul D. Wright

(c) My Name Is Victory. By Jonathan Nelson and Justin Savage

(d) No Greater Love. By A. J. LaValley

10. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) Come By Here. African American Spiritual

(b) Come By Here, My Lord. Text and Tune, (DESMOND), by Marvin V. Frey

(c) If It Had Not Been for the Lord. By Margaret Douroux

(d) More of You. By Cheryl James

(e) Speak Into My Life. By Heidi Stampley

11. Sermonic Selection
(a) Jesus Paid It All. By David Curry

(b) Lamb of God. By Twila Paris

(c) Power of the Cross. By Keith Gett and Stuart Townsend

(d) Solid Rock. Traditional

(e) Thank God for the Blood. By V. Michael McKay

(f) The Corinthian Song. By V. Michael McKay

12. Invitational Song or Instrumental
(a) Jesus Is a Love Song. By E. Clark

(b) One Hammer, Three Nails. By Damien Price

(c) Let Him In. By Melvin Crispell

(d) Life Shall Never Be the Same. By Adrian B. King
(e) Revelation 19:1. By A. Jeffrey LaValley

(f) What Love. By Milton Biggham

13. Benediction Song or Music
(a) Always Remember. Text and Tune by Andraé Crouch

(b) Always Remember. By Andraé Crouch

(c) There Is a Name. By Kurt Carr

14. Audio Visual Suggestions
(a) Have your mime ministry perform using the song “He Arose” (see 3(c)) or any other Spiritual or older, well-known (non-gospel) song as a way of keeping alive all of the genres of black music. The seniors of the congregation should be asked to lead in the signing of the song selected.

(b) Evangelism Opportunities
- Use social networking and other sites and prepare an eCommercial to promote the observance of Easter offered by your ministry. Post it on YouTube and Facebook, and Tweet about it for evangelism purposes.

- Use your local Public Access Television station to present an educational forum regarding Easter. Utilize this free service as an electronic forum to get your message to a diverse audience. Be sure to include persons who provide a variety of expressions concerning Easter. For example, Easter is celebrated differently in Catholic and in Baptist Churches. You may also want to invite a church or liturgical historian to talk about Easter. This learning exercise can also be used as an evangelism tool.

(c) Crafts and Tapestry
- Embrace the usage of crafts and tapestry as viable worship mediums. You may want to have youth do wood, painting, or beading projects as their way of presenting the Resurrection story. Easter is a great time to get children and youth involved in an important liturgical celebration and for them to learn about the holy seasons of the church through participation, not just by hearing and watching.

- Banners should be made to provide visual display of symbols and colors pertaining to the Easter season. See the African American Liturgical Colors Calendar for the colors for the Easter season.

- Children and youth can also create red and white arm bands for the congregation to wear. Tell the congregation that each time the band is worn, they are to remember the blood of Jesus that saves all and the fresh start given because of the Resurrection.

15. Other Recommendations
Learning/Teaching Resources
(a) Understanding the Traditions/Symbols/Old Testament Typology. The observance of Easter is the holiest celebration in Christendom. Easter is a time set aside to celebrate Christ’s Resurrection from the dead. Even Christian denominations that do not follow a liturgical calendar celebrate Easter to commemorate the Resurrection of Christ.

As part of your Christian Education efforts, during the Easter Season, during Sunday School, Bible Study, or other training programs, discuss the following traditions, symbols, and Old Testament foreshadowings of the Resurrection.

• **Traditions of the Easter Season**
  Vestments and Linens (White)
  Celebration: Ringing of the Bells
  Baptizing of New Converts
  Lighting of the Paschal Candle
  Eating of Lamb for Easter dinner

• **Symbols**
  Christ as The Lamb
  Lilies (flowers)
  Empty Crosses (jewelry not containing the body of Christ)

• **Old Testament Typology Foreshadowing the Resurrection**
  Samson Carrying off the Gates of Gaza
  Daniel Coming forth from the lion’s den
  Jonah Coming forth from the whale

(b) Free Digital Choir Music Downloads for Lent and Holy Week can be found at http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=6761&loc_id=17,897,745

(c) See Easter Year One and Two on The African American Lectionary. Be sure to view the commentaries, the cultural resources, the worship resources, and the Liturgical Colors Corner.

(d) Internet Resources - The following websites are among hundred that provide information on the Easter Season:
  • http://www.stpaulskingsville.org/easter.htm
  • http://www.gbod.org/easter/
  • http://www.blackandchristian.com/cgi-bin/look/exec/search.cgi?skin=&search=Easter

**Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed**

1. **Litany, Responsive Reading, or Invocation**
   (a) Litany—“A Christian Affirmation for Resurrection.” By Sharon Laverne Fuller

   (b) At the Cross. By Darrell Pitts
Location:

Gospel Warehouse Records
PO Box 14908
Houston, TX 44221
Phone: 877-402-0600

Online location: www.gospelwarehouserecords.com

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs
(a) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither
Location:


(b) Christ Arose. Text and Tune by Robert Lowry
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #471

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #184

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #261

(c) Christ Is the Way. Text and Tune Charles Albert Tindley
Location:

(d) Easter People, Raise Your Voices. By William M. James and Henry Smart
Location:

(e) I Know That My Redeemer Lives. By Samuel Medley. Tune, (DUKE STREET, LM), by John Hatton
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #276

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #190


The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #245

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #106

(f) Low in the Grave He Lay. Text and Tune by Robert Lowry
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #283

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #117

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #261

(g) Rejoice. Text and Tune by Kenneth W. Lewis
Location:
Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #62

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs
(a) Christ Has Risen from the Dead. Text and Tune by Anthony E. Jackson
Location:
Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #65

(b) Christ the Lord Is Risen Today. Text: Victimae paschal laudes; Ascr. to Wipo of Burgundy. Tune, (VICTIMAE PASCHALI).
Location:
Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #57

(c) He Arose. Spiritual
Location:
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #189

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #59

Songs of Zion. #168

(d) In the Garden. By C. Austin Miles
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #494

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #248

Songs of Zion. #44

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #87

Location: Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #58

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams
(a) Alpha and Omega. By Erasmus Mutanbira

(b) Come See Where He Lay. By Steven Roberts

(c) Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Text: George Multrain. Trinidad and Tobago. Tune: Caribbean folk song. Arr. by Carlton R. Young
Location: Zion Still Sings. #76

(d) He Decided to Die. By Margaret Douroux

(e) He Is Lord. By Ronnie Porter
Location: St. Agnes Baptist Church of Houston. He Is Lord. Houston, TX: St. Agnes Church, 1995.

(f) He Lives. By Alfred H. Ackley

(g) His Blood Washes Me. By O’Landa Draper
Location:

(h) *I Know It Was the Blood*. Anonymous
Location:


(i) *Lord I Lift Your Name on High*. By Tim Clifton and Rick Founds
Location:

(j) *My Everything You Are*. By Ernest L. Porter, Jr.
Location:

(k) *Raised, He’s Been Raised from the Dead*. By Gennifer Benjamin Brooks. Tune by Monya Davis Logan
Location:
Zion Still Sings. #77

(l) *Since He Died for Me*. Text and Tune by Margaret Douroux
Location:
Rev. Earl A. Pleasant Publishing
P.O. Box 3247
Thousand Oaks, CA 91357

(m) *Thank You (Congregational Medley)*. By Christopher Lewis
Location:

5. Liturgical Dance Music
(a) *For God So Loved the World*. By Lanny Wolfe
Location:

(b) *I Know It Was the Blood*. By Dello Thedford
Location:
(c) I Know It Was the Blood. By Noel Hall, Fred Hammond, and Tommie Walker
Location:

(d) Why Did He Do It? By John Patrick Adams
Location:

(e) Wounded for Me. By Greg O’Quinn
Location:

(f) You Loved Me. By Keith Pelzer and Jill Scott
Location:

6. Anthems
(a) Sing to God a Joyful Song. By Robert Williams. Arr. by Lynn Trapp
Location:
    Vocal score for anthem available
    GIA Publications, Inc.
    7404 South Mason Avenue
    Chicago, IL 60638
    Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358

    Online location: www.giamusic.com

(b) Our Risen Lord. By Timothy Dudley-Smith and Bob Moore
Location:
    Vocal score for anthem available
    GIA Publications, Inc.
    Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
    Online location: www.giamusic.com

(c) Resurrection Jubilee. By Glenn Jones
Location:
    Vocal score for anthem available
    GIA Publications, Inc.
    Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
    Online location: www.giamusic.com

(d) If They Ask You Why He Came. By Lena Johnson McLin. For SATB choir
Location:
    Vocal score for anthem available
7. Modern Songs
(a) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither
Location:  

(b) He Lives in You. By Lebo M., Mark Mancina, and Jay Rifkin
Location:  
Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto Choir. Songs for the Heart. Toronto, CN: Metropolitan Community Church, 2007.

(c) I Shall Live. By Jason Nelson
Location:  

(d) Jesus I Love You. By Norman Hutchins
Location:  

(e) Jesus Is Alive. By Cedrick Ford
Location:  

(f) Live. By Jason Nelson
Location:  

(g) New Life. By John P. Kee
Location:  

(h) Rescued Me. By Luke Mercer, Jr.
Location:  

(i) Jesus. By Latoska Travis and Daniel Witherspoon
Location:  
(j) The Lamb. Text and Tune by V. Michael McKay
Location:
    Zion Still Sings. #75

(k) The Redeemed Praise. By V. Michael McKay
Location:

(l) We Rose. By JJ Hairston
Location:

(m) You Raise Me Up. By Lovland Graham
Location:
    Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto Choir. Songs for the Heart. Toronto, CN:
    Metropolitan Community Church, 2007.

8. Music for Children and Youth
(a) At the Cross. By John P. Kee
Location:

(b) Because He Lives. By Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither. Arr. by Deitrick Haddon
Location:

(c) Because of Calvary. By John P. Kee
Location:
    Kee, John P. & Victory in Praise Music and Arts Seminar Mass Choir. Stand. New York,

(d) Da’ Blood. By Luke Austin
Location:
    Medearis, Adrian and God’s Anointed People (GAP). The Journey. Houston, TX: MGB,
    2009.

(e) He Is Lord. By Antun Foster
Location:
    Armstrong, Vanessa Bell. Desire of My Heart: Live in Detroit. New York, NY: Verity,
    1998.

(f) He Lives. By Germaine Dwyer
Location:
    James, Cheryl James and Voices of Worship. Cheryl James and VOW Live. Charlotte,
(g) Jesus. By John P. Kee  
Location:  

(h) Love. By Kirk Franklin  
Location:  

(i) Ransomed. By Micah Stampley and Heidi Stampley  
Location:  

(j) Saved. By John P. Kee  
Location:  

9. Song or Instrumental for the Offertory Period
(a) It Wasn’t the Nails. By Milton Biggham and Jerry Mannery  
Location:  

(b) Let’s Celebrate (He Is Risen). By Rev. Timothy Wright and Paul D. Wright  
Location:  

(c) My Name Is Victory. By Jonathan Nelson and Justin Savage  
Location:  

(d) No Greater Love. By A. J. LaValley  
Location:  

10. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) Come By Here. African American Spiritual  
Location:  
Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #218

(b) Come By Here, My Lord. Text and Tune, (DESMOND), by Marvin V. Frey  
Location:  
African American Heritage Hymnal. #543
(c) If It Had Not Been for the Lord. By Margaret Douroux
   Location:

(d) More of You. By Cheryl James
   Location:

(e) Speak Into My Life. By Heidi Stampley
   Location:

11. Sermonic Selection
   (a) Jesus Paid It All. By David Curry
       Location:

   (b) Lamb of God. By Twila Paris
       Location:

   (c) Power of the Cross. By Keith Gett and Stuart Townsend
       Location:

   (d) Solid Rock. Traditional
       Location:

   (e) Thank God for the Blood. By V. Michael McKay
       Location:

   (f) The Corinthian Song. By V. Michael McKay
       Location:


12. Invitational Song or Instrumental
   (a) Jesus Is a Love Song. By E. Clark
       Location:

(b) One Hammer, Three Nails. By Damien Price  
Location:  
Price, Damien & Praise Featuring the Houston Mass Choir. *God Meant It for My Good*.  
Houston, TX: Price and Praise Music, 2005.

(c) Let Him In. By Melvin Crispell  
Location:  

(d) Life Shall Never Be the Same. By Adrian B. King  
Location:  

(e) Revelation 19:1. By A. Jeffrey LaValley  
Location:  

(f) What Love. By Milton Biggham  
Location:  

**13. Benediction Song or Music**  
(a) Always Remember. Text and Tune by Andraé Crouch  
Location:  
African American Heritage Hymnal. #640

(b) Always Remember. By Andraé Crouch  
Location:  

(c) There Is a Name. By Kurt Carr  
Location:  