

JESUS THE KING
Lent Worship Series – Easter
He Has Done It
April 21, 2019

WORSHIP SERVICE OUTLINES

Each worship outline contains all elements needed for your worship service. The order of each service presented is only a *suggestion*. No doubt changes will be needed to accommodate the flow and worship style of your corps. The outlines are flexible and allow opportunities to “cut and paste” as needed. If you are blessed with instrumental or vocal music resources, you may find there is more structured material here than needed.

Announcements and Offering

He Has Done It

Drama – An Empty Tomb

Call to Worship:

When Jesus cried out from the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” he was echoing Psalm 22, which foretold the circumstances of the cross and what it would accomplish. This same psalm predicted that Jesus would be mocked and that they would cast lots for his clothing. Toward its end, Psalm 22 moves from suffering to deliverance:

*²⁰ Deliver me from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dogs.*

*²¹ Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;
save me from the horns of the wild oxen....*

*²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help...*

*²⁷ All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,*

*²⁸ for dominion belongs to the LORD
and he rules over the nations.*

*²⁹ All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—
those who cannot keep themselves alive.*

³¹ They will proclaim his righteousness,

*declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!*

(*Jesus the King*, p. 240;
Psalm 22:20-21, 24, 27-29, 31, NIV)

HC#233 – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today SB#218 – Christ the Lord is risen today	HC-233 TB-248 – Easter Hymn	HCD22-T13 HTD3-T9 (4 vs.)
Additional Optional Songs		
HC#149 – In Christ Alone SB#861 – In Christ alone	HC-149 TB-132 – same	HCD13-T19 No CD
HC#164 – Before the Throne of God Above SB#243 – Before the throne of God above	HC-164 TB-52 – same	HCD15-T14 No CD
HC#204 – See, What a Morning	HC-204	HCD19-T14
HC#209 – Come People of the Risen King	HC-209	HCD19-T19
HC#241 – Crown Him with Many Crowns SB#358 – Crown Him with many crowns	HC-241 TB-162 – Diademata	HCD23-T11 HTD1-T8 (4 vs.)
SB#139 – He came to give us life	TB-645 – same	No CD
SB#217 – Christ is alive! Let Christians sing	TB-47 – Truro	No CD
SB#228 – Low in the grave He lay	TB-905 – Up from the grave He arose	HTD2-T17 (3 vs.)
SB#276 – Thine is the glory	TB-746 – Maccabeus	No CD
SB#847 – I serve a risen Savior	TB-681 – same	HTD6-T10 (3 vs.)

Responsive Reading

Leader: If Jesus really has done it—if he truly is risen—it means the story of the world according to Mark is all true. Jesus really is the Son of God, the true and perfect King; he came to earth to die on the cross for us; and by trusting in what he has done there, we are spared from eternal judgment and ushered into the presence of God for all eternity. In the Gospel of John, Jesus puts it this way:

Men: ²⁵ *Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”* (John 11:25-26, NIV)

Leader: His death means no death for us. His resurrection means our resurrection.

Women: ¹⁴ *For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.* (1 Thessalonians 4:14, NIV)

Leader: But if Jesus is *not* risen, then the story of the world that Mark has been telling is just fiction. Paul makes this very clear:

Men: ¹³ *If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.*
¹⁴ *And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.*

Women: ¹⁵ *More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.*

All: ¹⁶ *For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.* ¹⁷ *And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.* ¹⁸ *Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.* ¹⁹ *If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.* (1 Corinthians 15:13-19, NIV)

Leader: The truth of the resurrection is of supreme and eternal importance. It is the hinge upon which the story of the world pivots.

(Jesus the King, pp. 240-242)

HC#164 – Before the Throne of God Above	HC-164	HCD15-T14
Additional Optional Songs		
HC#23 – Such Love	HC-23	HCD2a-T13
HC#89 – Knowing You	HC-89	HCD7-T19
HC#148 – Agnus Dei	HC-148	HCD13-T18
HC#149 – In Christ Alone	HC-149	HCD13-T19
HC#156 – Enter In	HC-156	HCD14-T16
SB#222 – He is Lord	TB-649 - same	HPC

Prayers of Praise [Prayers from the congregation]

Pastoral Prayer

Testimony of Faith – I know that my Redeemer lives because...[Choose someone from the congregation who can testify on this theme.]

Message – He Has Done It!

SB#217 – Christ is alive! Let Christians sing	TB-47 – Truro	No CD
Additional Optional Songs		
HC#149 – In Christ Alone	HC-149	HCD13-T19
SB#861 – In Christ alone	TB-132 – same	
HC#164 – Before the Throne of God Above	HC-164	HCD15-T14
SB#243 – Before the throne of God above	TB-52 – same	No CD
HC#204 – See, What a Morning	HC-204	HCD19-14

HC#209 – Come People of the Risen King	HC-209	HCD19-T19
HC#233 – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today SB#218 – Christ the Lord is risen today	HC-233 TB-248 – Easter Hymn	HCD22-T13 HTD3-T9 (4 vs.)
HC#241 – Crown Him with Many Crowns SB#358 – Crown Him with many crowns	HC-241 TB-162 – Diademata	HCD23-T11 HTD1-T8 (4 vs.)
SB#139 – He came to give us life	TB-645 – same	No CD
SB#228 – Low in the grave He lay	TB-905 – Up from the grave He arose	HTD2-T17 (3 vs.)
SB#276 – Thine is the glory	TB-746 – Maccabeus	No CD
SB#847 – I serve a risen Savior	TB-681 – same	HTD6-T10 (3 vs.)

It Can Be Your Story

Leader: The gospel is the ultimate story that shows victory coming out of defeat, strength coming out of weakness, life coming out of death, rescue from abandonment. And because it is a *true* story, it gives us hope because we know life is really like that.

It can be your story as well. God made you to love him supremely, but he lost you. He returned to get you back, but it took the cross to do it. He absorbed your darkness so that one day you can finally and dazzlingly become your true self and take your seat at his eternal feast.

(Jesus the King, pp. 251-252)

HC#137 – Worthy Is the Lamb SB#201 – Thank you for the cross, Lord	HC-137 TB-947 – same	HCD12-T17 No CD
Additional Optional Songs		
HC#149 – In Christ Alone SB#861 – In Christ alone	HC-149 TB-132 – same	HCD13-T19 No CD
HC#161 – My Great Redeemer’s Praise SB#89 – O for a thousand tongues to sing	HC-161 TB-59 – Azmon TB-75 – Grimsby	HCD15-T11 HTD4-T4 (4 vs.) No CD
HC#204 – See, What a Morning	HC-204	HCD19-T14
HC#209 – Come People of the Risen King	HC-209	HCD19-T19
HC#241 – Crown Him with Many Crowns SB#358 – Crown Him with many crowns	HC-241 TB-162 – Diademata	HCD23-T11 HTD1-T8 (4 vs.)
HC#248 – Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)	HC-248	HCD23-T18
SB#241 – And can it be that I should gain	TB-445 – Sagina	HTD4-T13 (4 vs.)
SB#276 – Thine is the glory	TB-746 – Maccabeus	No CD

Benediction:

All praise to you, Jesus Christ, risen Savior! You triumphed over death and hell. You are the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Forgiveness and salvation are yours. You have redeemed us and made us holy in the sight of God. Grace and peace flow from you. In you and through you we find strength and blessing and abundant life. Let all of heaven and earth declare your praise as the risen Son of God, the Savior of the world! Amen.

(The NIV Worship Bible, page 1418)

HC#239 – Fountain/Doxology	HC-239	HCD22-T19
SB#202 – There is a fountain filled with blood	TB-71 – Fountain	No CD
Additional Optional Songs		
HC#149 – In Christ Alone SB#861 – In Christ alone	HC-149 TB-132 – same	HCD13-T19 No CD
HC#161 – My Great Redeemer’s Praise SB#89 – O for a thousand tongues to sing	HC-161 TB-59 – Azmon TB-75 – Grimsby	HCD15-T11 HTD4-T4 (4 vs.) No CD
HC#209 – Come People of the Risen King	HC-209	HCD19-T19
SB#271 – Rejoice, the Lord is King!	TB-200 – Darwalls	HTD1-T7 (3 vs.)

Jesus the King: Understanding the Life and Death of the Son of God by Timothy Keller, 2013; previously published as *King’s Cross: The Story of the World in the Life of Jesus*, 2011 (Penguin Books).

Lent 2019 Easter	
DRAMA	
An Empty Tomb	
By Martyn Scott Thomas	
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Topic:	The Resurrection
Scripture:	John 20:1-20
Synopsis:	Peter recalls his visit to the empty tomb.
Characters:	Peter – the Lord’s disciple
Props/Costumes:	Biblical or modern.
Setting:	Bare stage.
Running time:	2 minutes

[Peter comes running in, out of breath.]

Peter: I must be older than I thought. Five years ago, John would never have beaten me in a race. Actually, it wasn’t really a race, but we were both running as if it were.

You see, early this morning, some of the women went to the tomb and saw that the stone was rolled away. They returned to tell us what they had seen and John and I both took off running.

I kept up with him for a while, but the thoughts racing through my head got the best of me. “What have they done to his grave?” “Who could’ve moved the stone?” “Who would dare steal the body?” “What happened to the guards?” I had to know, but I just couldn’t keep up with John.

When I got to the tomb, John was bent over, catching his breath, peering into the emptiness before him. I walked past him into the crypt and found nothing. Nothing but the grave clothes – strips of linen and the burial cloth from his head. Jesus’ body was nowhere to be found. Then John came in and we just looked at each other. Could it be possible? Could what Jesus said be true? Did he rise from the dead?

Then another thought came to me. What if this was all a trap? What if the guards were waiting just outside? I didn’t want to find out. So, I started running again. [*looking around*] I think I’m safe – for now.

But now what? Do I keep running or do I return to the others and tell them what we’ve seen? I’m sure John is already there. I guess I should be, too. If this is all a trap, we should all go down together. But if Jesus is alive . . . that would change everything.

I’m not sure what to think. But, I do know this. I’m done running. I let down my Lord three times in one night, but that will not happen again. Come what may, I’ll stand with the others until the end. My life is in God’s hands.

[*Blackout*]

JESUS THE KING:
Understanding the Life and Death of the Son of God
Lent Sermon – Easter
He Has Done It!
April 21, 2019

Title: He Has Done It!

Scripture: Mark 16:1-7

***Jesus the King* (Keller, 2011): Chapter 18**

[NOTE: Though Keller's chapter sub-title is used, and opening with portions of Psalm 22, the remainder of this sermon focuses on the words of the "young man dressed in white" (Mark 16:5, NIV).]

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

(Brian Wren, *S. A. Song Book* #217)

These are truly joyful and hopeful words from the pen of poet Brian Wren. If you allow these words to settle into your soul like a gentle spring rain, you just might find new growth sprouting! Christ is alive! The cords of death could not hold Him. He is risen! He is risen indeed!

On Good Friday, we read a portion of Psalm 22, a Psalm of Lament. Jesus repeats the opening words of Psalm 22 on the cross. "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" (Psalm 22:1; Mark 15:34, NIV) These words of the Psalm have made it memorable. What is not well known is that the dark lament of the Psalmist turns to reflect words of hope and deliverance toward its end. As the dark opening words parallel Good Friday, so the ending words parallel Easter Sunday. Listen for words of hope and joy from this portion of Psalm 22 (NIV):

- ²⁰ Deliver me from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dogs.
- ²¹ Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;
save me from the horns of the wild oxen. [. . .]
- ²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help. [. . .]
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,
- ²⁸ for dominion belongs to the LORD
and he rules over the nations.

- ²⁹ All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—
those who cannot keep themselves alive. [. . .]
- ³⁰ Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.
- ³¹ They will proclaim his righteousness,
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!

(Psalm 22:20-21, 24, 27-29, 31, NIV)

“He has done it!” What the Psalmist from long ago only predicts, Easter Sunday clarifies. Let’s read Mark’s very brief account showing the fulfillment of Psalm 22’s prophetic words:

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus’ body. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

⁴But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’” (Mark 16:1-7, NIV)

“He has done it!” This morning, our task is to uncover and understand what “it” means. Tim Keller writes, “If Jesus really has done it—if he truly is risen—it means the story of the world according to Mark is all true” (*Jesus the King*, 240). We will turn to the announcement of the “young man dressed in a white robe” in order to gain our understanding. This young man answers the “it” question in three different ways.

I. He has done it—death’s power is destroyed. “*He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.*” (Mark 16:6b, NIV)

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome come to the tomb because they want Jesus to have dignity in death. They come to the tomb carrying fragrant spices, intending to place them within his burial shroud. These spices will help to keep Joseph of Arimathea’s family tomb smelling a bit fresher. No doubt, Joseph will need this same tomb to bury other members of his family in the days ahead.

Upon their arrival at the tomb, they experience several shocks. The heavy stone Joseph had placed across the tomb’s entrance is gone. Jesus’ body is missing! Last, instead of seeing the decomposing body of Jesus, they see a “young man dressed in a white robe” (v. 5).

If I was with these women, my first reaction may have been to believe I had the wrong tomb! In fright, I may have turned and run out of the tomb so I could find the right one and accomplish my tasks. The messenger must have recognized their intention to leave as quickly as they had

come. His words assure them they are in the right place. *“You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him”* (Mark 16:6, NIV).

In life, Jesus had taken the time to tell them repeatedly about his coming death as well as his resurrection (8:31; 9:31; 10:34). They understood death. These three women had stood near Jesus at the cross, and had later accompanied Joseph to this very tomb as he carried Jesus’ dead body. What they had never fathomed in the face of the certainty of death was what “resurrection” would look like. For them, in that moment, it looked like bewildering emptiness. As many times as their eyes could blink, Jesus’ body was still gone. There simply was no body to anoint with the spices. They had no task to perform in the tomb, no reason to be there.

Yet, their presence in the empty tomb is very purposeful. God never wastes any experience! These three women stand as witnesses to the truth of the resurrection. “He has risen! He is not here.” Death is robbed and cheated. Jesus is alive, and these women bear witness to the truth. Anyone hearing about the resurrection, or reading Mark’s account would be able to go to these three named witnesses to check out their story, and cross-examine them.

“He has done it!” Here, the “it” refers to the bodily resurrection of Jesus. That’s the first part of the young man’s message to the women.

II. He has done it—restoration is available. *“...Go, tell his disciples and Peter...”*
(Mark 16:7, NIV)

In addition to being firsthand witnesses to the resurrection, the young man now gives the women two tasks to perform. First, they are to deliver a message. *“...Go, tell his disciples and Peter...”* (v. 7). In these words, there is a hidden joy. The resurrected Christ is not holding grudges. Just as He initially called them to be His disciples, He renews their calling.

Just as Jesus had predicted His own death and resurrection, He also predicted that all the disciples would turn their backs and run away in the face of danger. The disciples, full of swagger and bravado, all told Him they would never abandon Him. Peter especially led the group in offering pledges of loyalty to Christ.

Even as late as the night of Jesus’ arrest in the garden, there was discussion regarding the disciples’ loyalty. Mark tells the story in chapter 14:27-31 (NIV):

²⁷“You will all fall away,” Jesus told them, “for it is written:

“I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.”

²⁸But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

²⁹Peter declared, “Even if all fall away, I will not.”

³⁰“Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.”

³¹But Peter insisted emphatically, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the others said the same.

Only hours later, Mark closes Jesus' arrest in the garden with these words: "*Then everyone deserted him and fled*" (Mark 14:50, NIV).

When the women finally deliver the news to the disciples, who are hiding in fear of their lives, they must have been astounded! Implicit in the instruction is the news of restoration of relationship. The resurrected Christ is not interested in causing fire and brimstone to fall on them because of their defection. Jesus freely offers forgiveness and restoration without them ever having to ask!

The message especially singles out Peter. "Go, tell his disciples *and Peter*. . . ." Of all the disciples who disowned Jesus in his last hours, Peter's actions proved to be the most condemning. Everyone turned and ran. Peter at least bravely went to the home of the High Priest, where the trial before the Sanhedrin had taken place. While there, Peter faces three challenges to his identity as a follower of Jesus. Three times Peter denies knowing Christ. Peter's third denial is the strongest, and contains curses on either Jesus or himself.

If I was Peter, and heard that Jesus was alive again, I'd be both afraid and ashamed. Would Jesus require punishment because of my betrayal? Would Jesus even want to have anything to do with me? The news the three women brought must have been astonishing to Peter. "Go tell the disciples. And, *even, especially even*, tell Peter!"

William Barclay writes that he finds the two words "and Peter" to be "the most precious" in this passage. Barclay continues his comments:

How that message must have cheered Peter's heart when he got it! He must have been tortured with the memory of his disloyalty, and suddenly there comes a message, a special message for him. He of all the disciples is specially picked out. It is characteristic of Jesus that He thought, not at all of the wrong Peter had done Him, but altogether of the remorse that Peter was undergoing. Jesus was far more eager to comfort the penitent sinner than to punish the sin. Someone has said, "The most precious thing about Jesus is the way in which He trusts us on the field of our defeat" (*Daily Study Bible*, 1956, 388-389).

III. He has done it—the journey continues. "*He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.*" (Mark 16:7, NIV)

The young man now tells the three women where they *will* find Jesus. It is the message they are to deliver to the eleven disciples. "*He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you*" (v. 7).

He has done it! The resurrection is true! The journey continues. Jesus invites them to join Him in the adventure.

David Garland helps us understand the impact of the announcement: "Jesus' 'going ahead of you' is as important as the word that 'he is not here'" (*NIV Application Commentary*, 614). While we don't find "going ahead" to be significant, the expression the young man uses indicates

Jesus is acting as a general “leading his troops forward” (Garland, *NIV Application Commentary*, 614). Garland concludes, “Just as the earthly Jesus led His frightened disciples to Jerusalem by going before them (10:32), so the risen Jesus goes ahead of them still, leading the church” (614).

There is a bit of irony in this invitation as well. “There you will *see* him. . . .” Up until this moment, the disciples had physically seen Jesus without really comprehending His mission or purpose. They were always left scratching their head, trying to put all the pieces together. The resurrection removes their spiritual blinders, and for the very first time, they will *really see* Jesus. They will finally deeply understand all that Jesus had taught and done. The risen Christ would now strengthen the calling they had first received in Galilee.

Mark ends his Easter morning account very curiously. Verse eight reads, “*Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid*” (NIV). Unlike the other Gospel writers, Mark does not include any Easter day appearances of Jesus. The resurrected Christ does not speak on Resurrection Sunday in Mark’s Gospel.

I believe Mark does this on purpose, so that he forces *us* to consider the message of the young man. Are *you* a disciple of Jesus? If you are, then receive the young man’s message, and search for Him in *your* Galilee. Go search for what the resurrected Jesus is doing in *your* neighborhood today! Garland writes, “This incomplete ending. . . has Christ still waiting symbolically in Galilee for His followers to come and forces us to ask whether we will go to meet Him there as well” (*NIV Application Commentary*, 623).

Reflect on these questions today. What do *I* know of the risen Lord? Where is Jesus now going ahead of *me*? What tasks does He invite *me* to take up in order to advance the message of the Kingdom of God to the world? (Questions adapted from N. T. Wright, *Mark for Everyone*, 224.)

Listen again to the words of Brian Wren, as Jesus calls out to us to meet Him in our Galilee!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now,
And touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war,
Where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring

Good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring
With joy, with justice, love and praise.

(Brian Wren, *S. A. Song Book* #217)

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