



He Is Not Here (He Qi)

April 20, 2025
Easter Sunday

Ministers
Pastor
Director of Music
Organist/Accompanist
Director of Faith Formation Ministries
Director of Preschool
Maintenance Superintendent
Administrator/Recording Treasurer

All the People of Covenant
Rev. Rachel H. Vogado
Richard Rudolph
Ronn Lowe
Jewel Aagaard
Anne Craig
Mark Overacker
Gail Schuler

1831 Deyerle Road SW, Roanoke, VA 24018
540-989-3314 • office@covroanoke.org
covenantroanoke.org

Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Gathering

**Please stand as you are able*

*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude

"Easter Fantasy on Ancient Hymns"
Sondra K. Tucker

Centennial Brass; Ronn Lowe, organ

Welcome and Covenant Life

Please take a moment to pass and sign the friendship pads.

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Introit

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"
arr. Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir; Centennial Brass; John Garmin, timpani; Ronn Lowe, organ

*Call to Worship

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

All: God is our strength and our song; this is the day of our salvation!

One: This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

**All: That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.**

One: We come singing Alleluias,
for light is streaming out of the darkness!

**All: May our Alleluias ring out
as we rush to follow the risen Christ into the world!**

One: Let us proclaim the good news to the world! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Hymn #232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(unison prayer)*

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to fear and doubt, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are dead to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace. We resist the changes we must make to receive new life. Save us from our selfish ways and destructive habits.

Forgive us, God of mercy. Forgive our stubbornness, our broken promises, our faithlessness. Help our unbelief and give us courage to proclaim your good news. Embolden us to trust your power to transform us, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news!
Jesus Christ died so that we might be dead to sin,
and alive to all that is good.

All: The stone is rolled away; the tomb is empty!

One: All things are made new!
In the name of Jesus Christ, the risen Lord,

All: our sins are forgiven. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace *(Greet one another, "Peace be with you.")*

Children are invited to come forward.

Time with Our Children

Jewel Aagaard, Director of Faith Formation

*Children ages 4 – 11 may leave for Children's Worship
and will return during the last hymn.*

*Hymn #246

"Christ Is Alive!"

Teaching

Prayer for Illumination

Lindsay Nanz

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25 (Pew Bible, OT pp. 655-656)

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:1-12 (Pew Bible, NT p. 78)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

"Resurrecting Memories"

Rev. Rachel H. Vogado

Anthem

"Resurrection Hymn (See What a Morning)"

arr. Steven Strite

Sanctuary Choir; Centennial Brass; John Garmin, timpani; Ronn Lowe, organ

***Affirmation of Faith** (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Nurturing

Celebration of Giving+

Offertory

"This Joyful Eastertide"

Sondra K. Tucker

Centennial Brass; Ronn Lowe, organ

***Doxology, #240**

"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession with the Lord's Prayer

Reaching

***Hymn #238**

"Thine Is the Glory"

***Charge and Benediction**

Trinity Chimes

Our Trinity Chimes played before the postlude provide the opportunity to sit and enjoy the end of our service with music, or to exit quietly as our Livestream continues for this part of worship.

Postlude

"An Easter Celebration"

Joel Raney

Centennial Brass; Ronn Lowe, organ

Music Notes from Ronn Lowe: A brief set of notes today as our bulletin is full! "Easter Fantasy on Ancient Hymns" might have parts that sound like Christmas! (No, Ronn hasn't lost it playing Christmas music!) The hymn tune "Noel Nouvelet" is not only used with a Christmas text, but Easter as well! The hymn is delightful and called "Now the Green Blade Rises." It is #247 in our hymnbook. This piece also uses "Christ is Risen" and "Cortege et Litanie." This is an incredible arrangement for brass and organ, and quite the challenge for all involved. The final piece of the day for brass and organ, "An Easter Celebration," includes the hymn tunes "Lift High the Cross," "Thine Is the Glory," and "Crown Him with Many Crowns."

I would like to thank Richard Rudolph, the Covenant Choir, and Centennial Brass for making today such an uplifting Easter celebration with heartfelt, majestic music on this Easter day! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!! ~ Ronn

Welcome! We are blessed to have you join our worship today, and we hope to keep seeing you! More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org and you can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. We would love to get to know you better, and a card is available in the pew before you to begin this journey together.

Greetings, Parents! We want all of God's children to feel comfortable in our sanctuary, and children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children ages 3 and younger. Please ask an usher for assistance. **We also have a Parents Room** just outside the Sanctuary with a changing table, rocking chairs, and toys. **You will find special children's bulletins and activity bags** on the table in Heritage Hall. **Children's Worship is offered** during the second half of the service for children ages 4 to 11.

You are invited to share your Joys and Concerns by writing them in the book on the stand outside the sanctuary. These will be included in the Prayers of the People during our worship service. (If you have a concern of a personal nature, please speak with the pastor or contact the office.)

The Elder of the Month will stand with Rev. Rachel as she greets attendees following the worship service. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like more information about Session or Covenant, please reach out to the Elder of the Month or any of the active serving Elders.

Join us for Mingle and Munch! After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall (the entrance area) to visit with church members and guests while enjoying light refreshments. **Thank you to Sherry Moran and Sandra Ryals for hosting this morning!**

***The flowers in the chancel today are given by John and Ginny Fedison
to the glory of God and in celebration of
their 61st wedding anniversary tomorrow, Congratulations!***

Elder of the Month: Jonathan Fiedler
Deacon of the Month: Lindsey Nanz
Assistant Deacon of the Month: Ashley Sweet



In Our Prayers...

Congregation: Pamela Alden, Audrey Bashlor, Todd Baumgardner, Jim Eaton, Mary Jane Fisher, Dick Frahm, Lynnmarie Hancock, Walter Jones, Marion Kepley, Jerry Lawson, Lindsey Nanz, Carol Ryan, Brian Slack, June and Forrest Smith, Jinx Weary, Jo Wilson, Betty Young, Ray Zubler, caregivers, military service members and families

Family & Friends: Greg Adcox, Rob Ahlers, Reid Ammen, Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Kenneth Benner, Mike Cummings, Patrick Dooley, Maria Dreiling, Cesia Enriquez, Heather Ford, Larry Ford, Debbie Helms, Jo Jones, Pauline Mudrick, Ezra Schuyler Soto, Judy Talley, Joe Wallace, Daniel Woodbury, Religious violence against Christians in northeast India, Mission co-workers Tyler & Rochelle Holm and the people of Malawi, Jim McGill (Niger)

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