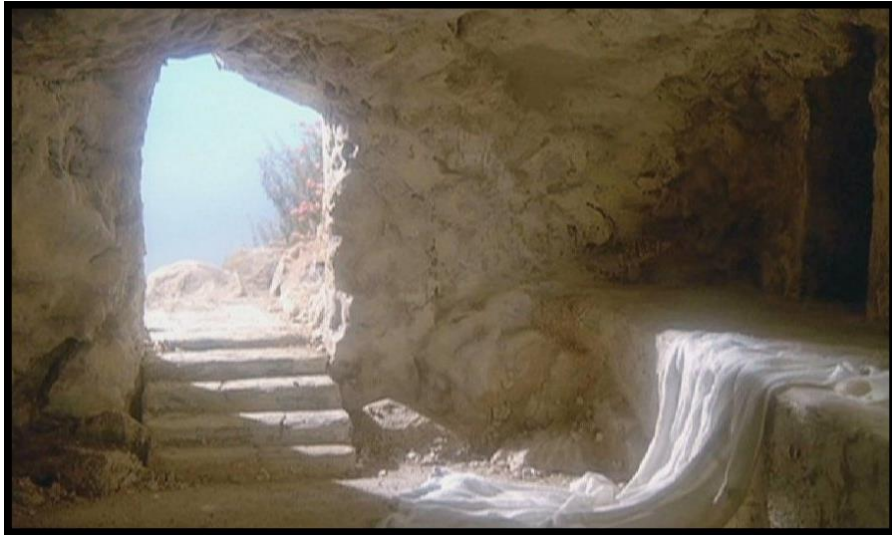


COVENANT CHURCH OF THOMASTON

*Passionately Pursuing Jesus
Sacrificially Serving Our Neighbor*



**April 20, 2025
Worship 10:00 am
“Hope Restored”
John 20:24-29**

Pastor:

Rev. Stephanie Nelson
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***Our mission
is to go and be living evidence of God's love
by the transforming power of his forgiveness and grace.***

PRELUDE Tricia Dunn Oporto and Brenda Tousignant

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN #249 (v. 2, 3, 4) Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

PRAYER OF ADORATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

WELCOME AND LIFE TOGETHER

SONGS The Power of the Cross

The past that held regret over my head is gone.

These chains are ashes now that once were rusted on.

I was a runaway; now I am finally home.

My mind was a ghost town, haunted by yesterday

Until your hand reached down, pulled me out of my grave

Into the freedom found only in Jesus' name.

(chorus 1) I am forgiven, no longer lost.

Now I am living in the power of the cross.

The Father gave his Son so I could be set free,

And now the scales are gone. My eyes can finally see.

I'll tell the world of all Jesus has done for me.

(chorus 2) I am forgiven, no longer lost.

Now I am living in the power of the cross.

Goodbye to sorrow; welcome my joy.

Now I am living in the power of the cross.

(bridge) And on that cross his love held true,

Through sacrifice, the old made new.

This life I live, I live in faith now

in Jesus' name.

(chorus 3) I am forgiven, no longer lost.

Now I am living in the power of the cross.

Goodbye to sorrow (goodbye to sorrow),

Welcome my joy (welcome my joy)

Now I am living

(yes, I'm living) in the power of the cross.

(tag) Thank you, O God, I thank you.

Jesus, I thank you. Thank you for the cross.

Praise you, O God, I praise you.

Jesus, I praise you, praise you for the cross.

Raise a Hallelujah

I raise a hallelujah, in the presence of my enemies.
I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief.
I raise a hallelujah: my weapon is a melody.
I raise a hallelujah: heaven comes to fight for me.

**(chorus) I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm.
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar.
Up from the ashes, hope will arise.
Death is defeated; the King is alive!**

I raise a hallelujah, with everything inside of me.
I raise a hallelujah: I will watch the darkness flee.
I raise a hallelujah, in the middle of the mystery.
I raise a hallelujah: fear, you lost your hold on me! **(chorus)**

**(bridge 1) Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder).
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder).
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)**

Instrumental

(bridge 2)
Sing a little louder **(In the presence of my enemies)**
Sing a little louder **(Louder than the unbelief)**
Sing a little louder **(My weapon is a melody)**
Sing a little louder **(Heaven comes to fight for me)**
(repeat bridge 2)

(bridge tag) Sing a little louder. (chorus) (chorus)

**(ending) I raise a hallelujah; I raise a hallelujah
I raise a hallelujah; I raise a hallelujah.**

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Words and music by: Jonathan David Helser, Melissa Helser,
Molly Skaggs and Jake Stevens | CCLI# 1481213

HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

Dawn Roaix

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Leader: For Christ's love compels us,

**Congregation: because we are convinced that one died for
all, and therefore all died.**

Leader: And he died for all,

**Congregation: that those who live should no longer live
for themselves but for him who died for them and was
raised again.**

Leader: So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point
of view.

**Congregation: Though we once regarded Christ in this
way, we do so no longer.**

Leader:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:

Congregation: The old has gone, the new is here!

Leader: All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself
through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

**Congregation: that God was reconciling the world to
himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them.**

Leader: And he has committed to us the message of
reconciliation.

**Congregation: We are therefore Christ's ambassadors,
as though God were making his appeal through us.**

Leader: We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to
God.

**Congregation: God made him who had no sin to be sin for
us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of
God.**

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Hymn #245 (v. 1, 3) Low in the Grave He Lay

**OFFERING – GIVE AS THE LORD LEADS YOU, WITH OPEN HANDS
AND ALL YOUR HEART**

Offertory: Tricia Dunn Oporto and Brenda Tousignant

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Jesus Way

SERMON

Pastor Stephanie Nelson

“Hope Restored”**John 20:24-29**

(p. 1546 in the pew Bible)

SENDING SONG Death Was Arrested

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin,
 Lost without hope with no place to begin,
 Your love made a way to let mercy come in
 That's when death was arrested and my life began.

Ash was redeemed; only beauty remains.
 My orphan heart was given a name.
 My mourning grew quiet; my feet rose to dance,
 When death was arrested and my life began.

(chorus 1) Oh, your grace so free washes over me.
 You have made me new; now life begins with you.

Released from my chains, I'm a prisoner no more.
 My shame was a ransom he faithfully bore.
 He canceled my debt and he called me his friend,
 When death was arrested and my life began.

(chorus 2) Oh, your grace so free washes over me.
 You have made me new; now life begins with you.
 It's your endless love pouring down on us:
 You have made us new; now life begins with you.

(Instrumental)

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross –
 Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost,
 But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand!
 That's when death was arrested and my life began!
 That's when death was arrested and my life began!
(chorus 2)

(bridge) Oh, we're free, free; forever we're free!
 Come join the song of all the redeemed.
 Yes, we're free, free; forever, amen!
 When death was arrested and my life began! *(repeat bridge)*

(tag) When death was arrested and my life began.
 That's when death was arrested and my life began!

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Tricia Dunn Oporto and Brenda Tousignant

• **TODAY**

6:30 am Sunrise Worship (Morton's Pond)
 9:00 am Sunday School / D/C
 10:00 am Worship
 Nursery: *Christy Barrett* / Screen Monitor: *Cathy Fredlund*
 11:15 am Coffee Fellowship (Fellowship Room)

• **THIS WEEK**

Mon. 10:30 am 39ers Study (Fellowship Room)
 7:00 pm Zoom Prayer
 Tue. 9:30 am Women's Study (Conference Room)
 5:00 pm Prayer (church office)
 Wed. 6:30 pm NA (Fellowship Room)
 Thur. 6:30 pm WM Book Club (Jean Morton's)
 Fri. 6:00 pm Crafty Fridays (Potter's House)
 6:30 pm Tres Dias Secuela (Fellowship Room)
 7:00 pm-8:00 am Saturday: CHYG Lock-In
 Sat. 9:30 am "Chosen" group (Esme's & Ruby's)
 Sun. 9:00 am Sunday School / D/C
 10:00 am Worship
 11:30 am Trustees (Conference Room)

• **WM BOOK CLUB**: The group meets this week, Thursday, April 24, at 6:30 pm at Jean Morton's. The book is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman.

• **ZOOM PRAYER**: Join us on Monday nights, 7:00-7:30 pm, to pray. Contact Jessica Bedosky or Ruth Johnson (cmouse@covchurchhomaston.org) for the Zoom link.

• **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP** is hosted by the boards (CE, M&E, Trustees and Diaconate), Women Ministries, and the Social Committee. Each group hosts two months per year. If you want to sign up to host a particular Sunday, a clipboard is on the Kitchen counter. Food and beverages are provided by the church, so only setup, serving, and cleanup are needed.

- **WM OUTING**: ON Saturday, May 3, we will visit Elizabeth Park to view the tulips, followed by lunch. Sign up in the Potter's House. Contact: Martha Tillow.
- **INSTEAD OF ZUMBA**: Coming in May on Mondays – Walking Nystroms' track at 6:30 pm, weather permitting. No one is required to walk together, but it is nice for safety to know that others are there. Contact: Peggy Schwetz.

EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Ruth and Ken Hopkins, in memory of Ken and Beryl Hopkins and Roger and Ruth Pierpont

Tim and Sue Sundell, in memory of David Crannell, LaVonne Sundell, Elijah Simpson Sundell, and Dylan Gold

Millie Cunningham, in memory of Jack Cunningham

Cathy & Jay Fredlund, in memory of beloved Dads, "Pops" Fredlund and Bill Berg

Linda Lawrence, in memory of Michael Hanson and William and Marion Lawrence

Brenda Tousignant, for Anthony DeSousa and loved ones

Linda Chandon, in memory of Ed and Eleanor Grabherr

Sarah Morton and Patricia Vigeant, in memory of Pam and Robert Morton

Lori and Patricia Vigeant and Adrianna and LJ Rodriguez, in memory of Frank and Jean Morton and Frank and Dorothy Vigeant and Bachie

The Morton and Vigeant families, in memory of Robert Morton and Jean and Frank Morton

Ruth Johnson, in memory of Howard and Esther Bradley, Dale Holder, and other loved ones

- **GIVING MADE EASY**: Give online in two minutes. Opt for one time, weekly or monthly donations. Open the camera app on your phone and scan the QR Code, which takes you to the Giving Page on our website.

Covenant Church of Thomaston

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