

VIRTUAL EASTER SERVICE



Dear Worship Leaders,

Remember to speak directly into the camera

Check to see what is “viewable” from your camera.

Over exaggerate, which may feel cheesy in the moment, but energy level drops in recording and sending out.

Remember that your worshipping community has its own traditions for Easter Sunday, how can these be translated to a virtual setting?

Take time to create a space in your home that helps viewers know it is Easter. Create a sacred space. This service is light and joyous Consider being next to a picture window, have good lighting in front of you.

Share images of Easter lilies or life springing forth!

Have images of Easter, spring printed and placed on a table.

Consider using a ZOOM background that communicates Easter.

Print a picture of resurrection and place it next to you, create a background using items from around your home, and have a candle ready to light at the beginning of worship.

Check to see what is “viewable” from your camera.

Have good front lighting.

Block bright back lighting as it will wash you out.

Gather

This time on Easter morning has to be connectional. Many of our churches proclaim, “He is risen!” and the congregation responds “He is risen indeed.” While we cannot be physically present with our faith community during this time, encourage people to proclaim it with their family or pick up the phone and call someone or send them a text message during this time.

Invite congregants to take a photo of them dressed in their Easter clothes and post on the church’s facebook page or text to one another.

Consider using the UMC BOW pp 383 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” as a poem (302 in hymnal)

Consider using YouTube videos if pre-recording:

He Lives:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFz_jHPJh-g

Christ the Lord is Risen Today/He Is Not Dead (NCC Worship):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNrV2fX5Qb4>

NOT COVERED underling licensing:

- Easter People Raise Your Voices
- Christ is Risen
- Day of Resurrection
- He Lives
- Christ is Alive

Proclaim

Easter Scripture

Message; *many preachers work long and hard on their Easter sermon. This is not the year to give a lengthy message. Keep it simple. Keep it real. What is the one thing you want your congregation to hear this Easter.*

Respond

What is your congregation's ritual? How might you incorporate this virtually? Invite congregants to be ready ahead of time.

Easter Lillies are a part of many congregations. Invite congregants to make a lily ahead of time!

Make an Easter Lily out of your hand print. Save to bring to worship our first Sunday back together. <https://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/eastercrafts-03-handprintliliescraftforkids.html>

Tithes/Offerings

For many churches, Easter is one of the largest offerings of the year.

Create a strong "why" we give, any special offerings for ministries.

Explain "how" congregants can continue to give; checks, electronically, etc.

Send

What is your ritual? How might you incorporate virtually? Invite congregants to be ready ahead of time? Leave with message of hope and of the vision of returning together in person for worship.

Offer the link to an Easter Scavenger Hunt: <https://i.shgcdn.com/74342381-323c-4f1d-b6a2-00ddd6146015/-/format/auto/-/preview/3000x3000/-/quality/lighter/>

Send:

Create a strong closing so that viewers know the worship is coming to an end.

Benediction

L: We shall celebrate Easter! Alleluia!

P: We shall bring love to those who are sad

L: And share joy with those who are happy

P: We will live our lives to the glory of God

L: We will live in Easter joy and Easter hope

P: And bring new life to those we meet.

ALL: Alleluia!

L: May the blessing of God the Creator be upon this place,

P: The blessing of Christ our Redeemer be upon us,

L The blessing of the Spirit, hallowed and healing, be on our lives,

P: The blessing of the Triune God be on all who seek an encounter with the loving and divine.

ALL: Alleluia!

~ posted on the *Third Space* website. <http://third-space.org.uk/blog>

Extinguish Candle