



*St. Paul CME Church*  
*Resurrection Day Sunrise Worship*

**6:30 AM**  
**April 21, 2019**  
**Lake Mayer**

**Worship Leader:** Good Morning, my brothers and sisters. I am glad you are here! It is early in the morning on this Sunday, April 21, 2019. Join me as we journey with Mary Magdalene. Mary has seen some difficult things in the last few days! Mary along with Jesus' mother and the other Mary, wife of Cleophas has seen Jesus arrested for things he did not do. She has seen him convicted for crimes he did not commit. She has seen evil try to take over good, and darkness try to overcome light. She has seen Jesus crucified, die and be buried. Let's join Mary as she makes her way to the tomb!

### **Hymn of Gathering: Were You There**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there?)**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh!.....**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they when they nailed him to the tree? (to the tree?)**

**Were you there when they when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!.....**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (were you there?)**

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Oh!.....**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,**

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

**Were you there when they when they laid Him in the tomb? (in the tomb?)**

**Were you there when they when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh!.....**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,**

**Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?**

**Minister:** Let us pray. O God, we gather early in the morning, seeking you! We gather remembering we live in a world where evil has tried to overcome good. We live in a world where despair has tried to overcome hope, where disappointment has tried to overcome joy and darkness has worked to kill light! Yet this morning Lord, your people gather. This morning Lord, your sons and daughters come together in the darkness because our hope is in you, this morning we love you and we trust you! It's dark O Lord but we believe the sun will rise this morning! It's dark, O Lord but we believe the Son will rise this morning! It's dark O Lord but we believe you are a God of Light! O Lord shine on us this morning! AMEN.

### **Hymn of Need: I Need Thee Every Hour**

**I need Thee every hour, Most gracious Lord, No tender voice like Thine can  
peace afford.**

**(Refrain)**

**I need Thee, O, I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee! O bless me now, my Sav-  
ior, I come to Thee!**

**(Refrain)**

**I need Thee, O, I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee! O bless me now, my Sav-  
ior, I come to Thee!**

### **Minister: John 20: 1-7 Message Bible**

“Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, breathlessly panting, “They took the Master from the tomb. We don’t know where they’ve put him.” Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn’t go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself...”

## **Sunrise Meditation – Pastor Thurmond**

**Minister:** He defeated death, hell and the grave!

**Congregation:** **Jesus is the Light of the World!**

**Minister:** He defeated evil, darkness and hopelessness!

**Congregation:** **Jesus is the Light of the World!**

**Minister:** He has power over all of our faults, our frailties and our failings!

**Congregation:** **Jesus is the Light of the World!**

**Minister:** He defeated sin, suffering and in turn gave us eternal life and salvation!

**All:** **Jesus is the Light of the World!**

## **Offering of Thanks and Song of Praise**

**Congregation:** **Jesus the Light of the World (Refrain only)**

**We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright, shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus the Light of the World.**

**Minister:** Blessing of the Food and Benediction

Let us pray, Lord, we have so much to be thankful for this Resurrection morning. In the chill of the morning air, we do feel the warm blessing of your Spirit. We can rejoice this day because our tendency toward disbelief is overcome by our capacity for faith. We are truly amazed that a cross of crucifixion has been transformed into a symbol of new life, a symbol of eternal life.

We are thankful that you come to greet us in hope, trust, and faith. We thank you that a dark morning and empty tomb has emerged into a beautiful day of light, life and living. Bless now our food and our fellowship and in all our ways, we shall live for Christ, the resurrected and risen Savior. Amen.