

**A Worship Celebration for Easter with the New York Conference
of the United Methodist Church,
Thomas J. Bickerton, Resident Bishop**

April 12, 2020

A Guide for Pastors and Worship Leaders

The New Annual York Conference offers resources for pastors and worship leaders that can be used to enhance or support their Easter worship celebrations this year. We have prepared a recording of an Easter celebration worship service, a stand-alone recording of Bishop Bickerton's Easter sermon and accompanying resources.

The Easter celebration service recording includes:

- Musical prelude
- Greeting
- Opening Hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"
- Scripture Reading, John 20:1-18
- Sermon by Bishop Bickerton
- Hymn "Easter People, Raise Your Voices"
- Prayer
- Dismissal with Blessing
- Musical postlude

Both recordings are available here:

On the [NYAC Website](#) now

On the [NYAC YouTube page](#) now

[The full service will be available on the NYAC Facebook page starting on Sunday, April 12 at 8:45am.](#)

The recording of the Easter Celebration service is 35 minutes.

The recording of the Bishop's Easter sermon is 18 minutes.

We present the recording of the Easter service as a gift to pastors and churches, to be used in a way that is most appropriate for your ministries. To make the service relevant for your context, consider the culture and character of the congregation. Ask yourself what you can add or do to help this service feel relevant.

Please note the Greeting is from the New York Conference. You may want to consider how you can offer a greeting from your particular congregation. The service does not include a passing of the peace, sharing of joys and concerns or time for offering. You may want to preview the video and consider how you can add these worship elements in or around the recorded service.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE ONLINE

If you wish to share the Easter Celebration service with your congregation, here are some suggestions for **viewing** the service:

- Invite your congregation to watch the Easter Celebration Service on the New York Conference's Facebook page. We will host a Premiere of the Easter Service on Sunday, April 12 at 8:45 a.m. The service will be available for viewing on the NYAC Facebook page afterwards.
- If you prefer your congregation participate in the service at your usual worship service time, you can direct them to the NYAC website, YouTube page or Facebook page at the appropriate time.
- Host your own ZOOM worship service on Sunday morning, and play the Easter service for your congregation. Please see instructions below on how to play a video recording for a ZOOM meeting.
- If you prefer to host your own services on Easter morning, and make the Conference's Easter service available to whoever would like to view it later, you can share the links to the NYAC Website, Facebook or YouTube page with your congregation.
- You can embed the YouTube link of the service on your church's website page, share it on your church's social media pages, and share the YouTube link via email to your congregation. Click [here for instructions on how to embed a YouTube link](#) on your website.

If you wish to share only the Bishop's sermon with your congregation as a part of your congregation's Easter worship experience, here are some suggestions:

- Host your own ZOOM worship service on Sunday morning, and play the Bishop's Easter sermon at the appropriate time in your service. Please see below for instructions on how to play a video recording during your ZOOM meeting.
- Pre-record your own service, and include the video of the Bishop's Easter sermon at the appropriate time in your service. Share the recording with your congregation on Sunday morning.
- You can embed the YouTube link of the Bishop's Easter sermon on your church's website page, share it on your church's social media pages, and share the YouTube link via email to your congregation. Click [here for instructions on how to embed a YouTube link](#) on your website.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE BY TELEPHONE

- Invite your congregation to join a NY Conference hosted ZOOM service, on Easter Sunday, April 12 at 8:45 a.m., where we will greet worshippers and enjoy the Easter service together. This is a good option for those who prefer to call in and listen to the audio only. **To Join the NYAC-hosted ZOOM service, dial (929) 436-2866 and use ID: 713 501 443.**

- Host your own ZOOM worship service and invite your congregation to join you by phone. You can upload the recording and play it during the ZOOM meeting. Please see below for instructions on how to play a video file during a ZOOM meeting.
- The audio file of the recording is available on the NYAC website. You can download the file to your computer and email it to your congregation, or invite them to join you on a conference call and listen to the service over the phone with you.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SHARING THIS SERVICE ON ZOOM

- On the internet, navigate to the video of your choice (full service or Bishop’s sermon) on the NYAC website or NYAC YouTube page. Leave that page open so you can share that screen during your ZOOM meeting.
- Using a new tab, go to the ZOOM website (www.zoom.us). Log into your ZOOM account and into your ZOOM meeting.
- Before you are ready to start hosting your ZOOM meeting, notice the green “Share Screen” option at the bottom of your Zoom page. When you are ready to share the video, click on that green “Share Screen” button, then select the window showing the video recording. When that page opens, you can select “full screen” and Play Video. Now, everyone who is on the ZOOM call with you can see and hear the video as it plays. We strongly recommend you practice these steps before your worship service.
- *For instructions that include video, step-by-step pictures and explanations, go here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362153>
- ZOOM also provides instructions on how to optimize a video clip while screen sharing so your congregation members can have the best viewing and listening experience: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/202954249-Optimizing-a-Shared-Video-Clip-in-Full-Screen>

We are also providing a printed Order of Service and the text of the Bishop’s Easter sermon, available for download on the New York Conference website. These printed versions are available in English, Korean, Simplified Chinese and Spanish. You are welcome to share the Order of Service and the text of the Bishop’s Easter sermon with your congregation members for them to follow the Easter service or to view at a later time.

It is our hope that your congregation’s Easter worship experience shines a powerful light of hope, love and joy during these challenging times.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Matt Curry, Director of Connectional Ministries

Lisa Isom, Director of Communications

Rev. Doris K. Dalton, Director of Leadership Development and Intercultural Competency