

CHRIST

Arose

EASTER GUIDE

The *Christ Arose Complete Easter Service Guide* provides you with about 20 minutes of music and Scripture narration for your Easter Sunday worship, plus a piano offertory. This versatile service can be led with as little as a capable pianist and worship leader, or with a praise team, praise band and/or a full SATB choir (plus orchestral instruments with the full instrumental edition.) If you don't have any musicians, lead the service with the stereo tracks, or even mix tracks with live performances.

Get as elaborate as you want. Do all the readings with one person or select different elders/deacons and/or members of the congregation for each reading (make sure the people you select have expression and are committed to practicing with the included demos.) Or, just play the MP3 vocal demos of the readings.

The service begins quietly with a passage from Isaiah 53, continues with a brief retelling of the Easter story and grows to a triumphant ending with my HymnCharts contemporary arrangements of *Christ Arose* and *Are You Washed in the Blood*. The final chorus of *Are You Washed in the Blood* is repeated in a worshipful style which brings the intensity down for a reflective offertory piano solo. Add your pastor's sermon and your Easter Sunday is complete.

If you'd like to lengthen the service, try using my song *Journey to the Cross* to open your service, then proceed with the first narration. The Easter version of *I Adore You* can also be added to the end. Both songs are offered as free MP3s and chord charts (with paid downloads for vocal, keyboard and instrumental parts) at WorshipIdeas.com

I hope my Easter Service Guide will provide you and your congregation with a memorable, worshipful celebration for one of the most important Sundays in the year.

Don Chapman
WorshipIdeas.com

Ideas for using the *Christ Arose Easter Service Guide*:

>What you'll need to provide for your Easter service:

1. Up to 4 narrators. One person can do all the narration or pick a different person for each narration. Burn a CD or email your narrators the MP3 vocal demo and MP3 track so they can practice their timing. *The key to the service guide is the uninterrupted music flow!*

2. Sermon. There's a slot for the pastor's sermon.

3. Alternate Scripture. The KJV version is provided here for the Scripture readings (with a little tweaking on my part, changing "Thee" to "You" etc.), but you may have a favorite translation you'd rather use. Try "The Message" version for a contemporary reading.

>Tips for using the *Christ Arose Easter Service Guide*:

1. Scarce musicians. Burn a CD of the underscores and vocal demos and play it in lieu of using musicians. A single, 20 minute MP3 track combining all the underscores and music in order is also included, with or without vocal narration.

2. Keyboard player. The entire service can be conducted with a single, capable pianist. Have a keyboard player accompany the narration by playing the underscores under the narration (the underscores have chords so a guitarist can play along, too.) You will want to have a short rehearsal with the pianist and narrators to make sure their timing is perfect.

3. Change keys. Finale files are provided which will allow you to change the key if you own Finale or Sibelius software. However, *I do not recommend changing the keys as the underscores are designed to transition you from song to song in the keys I've selected.*

4. Logo. A Photoshop file and TIFF file is included of the "Christ Arose" logo so you can reproduce it in your bulletin.

5. PowerPoint files. Standard definition PowerPoint files are provided for the songs. Widescreen blank slides are included if you want to build your own slides in that format.

6. Solo/special music. Since *What Wondrous Love Is This* is not a well-known hymn, I suggest you perform it as a vocal solo (or choir/praise team special music.)

7. Lengthen your service. The *Christ Arose Complete Easter Service* is about 20 minutes, plus a piano offertory solo. If you want to lengthen your service, try opening your worship with a favorite Easter choir anthem or contemporary piece. May I suggest my song *Journey to the Cross* as an opener - you can download a free MP3 and chord chart at WorshipIdeas.com and purchase vocal, keyboard and instrumental sheet music.

Also, try adding a favorite, appropriate praise song after *Are You Washed in the Blood*. The Easter version of *I Adore You*, also in A major, is a good fit here. At my church, we close the service, after the sermon, with Chris Tomlin's *Jesus Messiah*, and use the version from PraiseCharts.com.

I've created the Service Guide to flow together thematically and by key, so if you do choose additional music, I suggest you only add songs at the beginning or at the end, keeping the Service Guide itself intact.

8. Video: WorshipFilms.com's *Complete Easter Vol. 2* contains videos for all four hymns.

How to use the *Christ Arose Complete Easter Service Guide*:

Each part of this Service Guide is on one page. Print out all the pages for all your narrators so they can follow along and mark their parts.

The final page is a one page, at-a-glance overview so those involved can see the entire program.

If you're using the MP3 underscores, make sure the narrators have a chance to practice with them. Feel free to burn a CD or email the MP3s to them so they can make sure their narrations fit the music.

Dead space kills a worship service! Both the keyboard underscores and MP3 underscores are designed to help you flow directly into the next song.

Questions or comments? Contact us at h2ghelp@heartstogod.com.