

Easter

SUNRISE SERVICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026
FOREST LAWN – COVINA HILLS

Choral Prelude Azusa Pacific Bel Canto Choir
"All His Benefits" by Paul Baloche and Ed Kerr Brandon DiNoto, Artistic Director

Welcome Andreea Koval, Vice President
Forest Lawn – Covina Hills

Call to Worship* Reverend Alma Zamudio Maciel
Interim Pastor, Pasadena Church of the Brethren

Congregational Hymn* All
"All Creatures of Our God and King" (lyrics below)
by Jonathan Baird and Ryan Baird

Morning Prayer Rev. Dr. Nicole McClurg
Forest Lawn – Clergy Services and Grief Support Director

Choral Anthem Azusa Pacific Bel Canto Choir
"Love Never Fails" by J.A.C. Redford

Scripture Reading Reverend Alma Zamudio Maciel
Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon Reverend Alma Zamudio Maciel
"He's Going Ahead of You"

Congregational Hymn* All
"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (lyrics below) by Charles Wesley

Closing Remarks Andreea Koval

Benediction* Reverend Alma Zamudio Maciel

Choral Benediction Azusa Pacific Bel Canto Choir
"Salmo 150 (Psalm 150)" by Emani Aguiar

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

by Jonathan Baird and Ryan Baird

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Thou rushing winds that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice.
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let all things their creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

Charles Wesley

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

REVEREND ALMA ZAMUDIO MACIEL

Greetings. My name is Alma Zamudio Maciel. I am an ordained pastor with the Evangelical Covenant Church, a spiritual director, and an accountant by training – I graduated from the University of Southern California, and administration is one of the gifts I get to use in ministry. I serve with Unidos South OC, a nonprofit community development organization in San Juan Capistrano, CA, where I walk alongside people seeking justice, dignity, and belonging. I also just started as an interim pastor at Pasadena Church of the Brethren in Pasadena, CA. I am married to my dear husband, Octavio, and together we are raising two sons – a young adult with special needs and an energetic 11-year-old. As a first-generation Mexican American woman, my life has often been shaped by the experience of being an outsider, yet I have found repeatedly that God's Kingdom makes room for all of us. I love to read and travel, and I draw deep inspiration from people who overcome challenges with courage and faith.

THE AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY BEL CANTO WOMEN'S CHOIR

The Azusa Pacific University Bel Canto Women's Choir has provided a space for singers to make music together at a high level for over forty years. The ensemble's diverse repertoire includes classical choral standards, film scores, contemporary music, world music and major works for treble chorus and orchestra. Open to all treble-student members, members of Bel Canto learn fundamental vocal technique and musicianship skills needed to build the foundations of a career in and an appreciation for music.

Under the direction of Brandon Chase Di Noto, M.M., Bel Canto presents multiple on campus concerts each year including university fundraisers & the annual Celebrate Christmas concert in collaboration with additional APU Music ensembles, and their own solo concerts. Off campus, the ensemble has continued its history of service by providing multiple ministry concerts at local and distant churches, and has presented international concerts in multiple European & Asian countries.

An additional goal of Bel Canto is to prepare students for careers in performance, education, composition and the music industry. The ensemble is additionally lead by one undergraduate or graduate student conductor each year, is accompanied by student collaborative pianists, regularly premieres new works by student composers, features student soloists and has their concerts recorded by student audio technicians. Bel Canto also frequently collaborates with living composers and publishers. Most recent collaborations include: Dale Trumbore (United States Premiere), Amy Gordon (Recording Re-Premiere) and Walton Music Publishing (Recording Re-Premiere).