

Easter

SUNRISE SERVICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026
FOREST LAWN – HOLLYWOOD HILLS



Choral Prelude	City of Angels Community Choir “Sing” by Israel Houghton	Richard Medrano, Music Director Ben Mason, Accompanist
Welcome	Vicky Franco, Vice President Forest Lawn – Hollywood Hills	
Call to Worship*	Reverend Ruby Varghese Pastor, Evangelical Covenant Church	
Congregational Hymn*	All “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” by John Rutter (lyrics below)	
Morning Prayer	Reverend Varghese	
Choral Anthem	City of Angels Community Choir “At the River” by Robert Lowry arr. Aaron Copland	
Scripture Reading	Reverend Varghese Psalm 42:1-5 NIV	
Sermon	Reverend Varghese “Let it Rise”	
Congregational Hymn*	All “Living Hope” by Phil Wickham arr. Joseph Martin (lyrics below)	
Closing Remarks	Vicky Franco	
Benediction*	Reverend Varghese	
Choral Benediction	City of Angeles Community Choir “Glorious” by Dan Munizzi, Israel Houghton, Martha Munizzi arr. Dan Galbraith	



CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

Lyrics, Charles Wesley arr. John Rutter, Melody from *Lyra Davidica*

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: “Alleluia!”
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heav’ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our Glorious King, Alleluia!
Where O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where’s thy victory, O grave? 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!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!



LIVING HOPE

Phil Wickham arr. Joseph Martin

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night

Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame

The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I’m Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

You have broken every chain
There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope
My living hope



REVEREND RUBY VARGHESE is a second-generation Indian American and a Commissioned Pastor for the Evangelical Covenant Church. Over the past two decades, she has served in several churches across the East Coast and the Seattle area.

Currently, she is a student at Fuller Theological Seminary pursuing a degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, with graduation set for June. Her current roles include serving as an MFT Trainee at Village Christian Counseling Center in Burbank and as an Associate Affiliate Research Assistant for the Fuller Youth Institute. In addition to preaching, she provides spiritual direction, coaching, and pastoral care.

Outside of her ministry and studies, she enjoys exploring California, spending time with her nieces and nephew, and relaxing with a good movie or a walk.

CITY OF ANGELS COMMUNITY CHOIR is a Los Angeles–based nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring singers, enriching audiences, and strengthening the community through exceptional choral music. Serving a culturally diverse group of artists, the organization provides world-class musical training and performances while nurturing each singer’s growth, creativity, and inner artist through high-quality choral literature.

Beyond the concert stage, City of Angels is deeply committed to community outreach, regularly performing at festivals, parades, and charitable events, and supporting causes such as hospitals, shelters, and community organizations. Since 2012, the choir has awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to ensure access to music education for all, regardless of financial means.

City of Angels ensembles—including the Children’s Chorus and Master Chorale—have toured nationally and performed with the Los Angeles Opera, appeared at Carnegie Hall, and been featured on KCET’s *Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration*. Their work includes recordings for Grammy-winning composers, Disney film trailers, anime productions, and music videos, and they were honored as the featured choir for the *Disney Kingdom Hearts III World Tour*.