

**EASTER SERVICES OF THE  
CHURCH OF THE  
SAVIOUR, BROOKLYN,  
N. Y. BEING A SERMON**

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Easter Services of the Church of the Saviour, Brooklyn, N. Y. being A Sermon by A. P. Putnam

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**A. P. PUTNAM**

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EASTER SERVICES

OF THE

Church of the Saviour, Brooklyn, N. Y.

BEING

A SERMON

BY

A. P. PUTNAM, Pastor,

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION,

THE GENERAL MORNING WORSHIP,

THE

DEDICATION OF THE MISSION CHAPEL,

AND

THE VESPER SERVICE.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1876.

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**NOTE OF INTRODUCTION.**

Easter Sunday of the current year was an occasion of unusual importance to the Church of the Saviour, the dedication of the new Mission Chapel in Willow Place, added to the customary observances of the Anniversary, having crowded the hours with interest, and made them a marked era in the history of the Society. A desire was felt that the general proceedings of the day should have some suitable and permanent record in pamphlet form, and hence the publication of the following pages. Most of the songs, prayers and readings are here omitted altogether, or are only partially indicated. Some of them, as they occurred in the Sunday School and Mission School services, appeared in full in the two printed Orders of Exercises, copies of which were distributed and used at the time. The reports which are given of the various addresses of the Pastor, and of Messrs. Low, Ropes and White, are due to the well-known stenographer, Mr. E. P. Ackerman, of this city.

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## SUNDAY-SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

The Sunday School, in view of the dedication of the new chapel later in the day, held its Easter Festival in its own edifice at 9:15 in the morning, instead of meeting with the Mission School, as in previous years, in the church in the afternoon. At the appointed hour, the room was well filled with the children and with their teachers and friends. The music for the occasion had been arranged by Miss Caroline L. Low, who had also composed several of the pieces to which hymns were to be sung in the Anniversary exercises of the two schools. In preparation for the Easter services, the children had rehearsed their songs for several Sundays under the special direction of Mr. Ethelbert M. Low. A committee of ladies, appointed for the purpose, consisting of Miss S. Louise Sheldon, Mrs. Annie C. Child, and Miss Emily T. Greene, had tastefully adorned the desk with a profusion of flowers, which, after the benediction, were distributed to the classes. The same committee had in charge the more elaborate decorations of the pulpit, font, tables and tablets of the Church, whence, at a subsequent hour, many a welcome floral offering was sent to the sick or afflicted ones of the Parish. Hundreds of these bouquets had been made the evening before in the basement of the Church by the young people.

The list of Officers and Teachers of the School is as follows :

William C. Gardner, *Superintendent*. *Teachers*—Miss Sarah Ann Russell, Mrs. R. H. Greene, Miss Alice B. Cary, George C. Brackett, Alfred T. White, Mrs. A. K. Towne, Miss C. L. Low, Miss Annie E. Lindley, Miss Mary Bowman, Miss Annie J. Lyman, Miss Nellie H. Greene, Mrs. F. Hussey, Mrs. E. A. Low, Wm. A. Butler, Miss Emma C. Low, Miss J. S. Vidaud, Ethelbert M. Low, Mrs. A. S. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Thayer, Miss Minnie Lamson, Mrs. Annie C. Child, Miss Frances S. Boyd, Miss S. Louise Sheldon, Miss Bessie S. Gilbert, William T. Catterfield, Mrs. R. C. Leonard, and Albert Cromwell. *Treasurer*—Ethelbert M. Low. *Secretary*—Miss Josephine S. Vidaud. *Librarians*—A. W.

Frothingham, J. R. Jewett and Henry S. Blossom. Several valued workers were absent, Miss Annie J. Lyman being sick in Venice, Italy, Mr. Holland C. Anthony, the former faithful librarian, pursuing his studies for a time in Paris, and Miss Caroline L. Low watching at home at the bedside of her mother,\* who was lying dangerously ill. One or two others, also, were unable to attend. Old and young were made glad at the presence of Mr. W. A. Butler, a most efficient and beloved teacher and helper in both schools, who had returned from his winter home at Lexington, Mass., to spend Easter Sunday with his numerous friends in Brooklyn.

### SERVICES.

The services, conducted by the Pastor and Superintendent, were opened by the singing of the Doxology,

"From all that dwell below the skies,"

the whole audience rising and joining in the hymn. This was followed by the reading of the 20th chapter of the Gospel of John, after which the children sang

"List, my heart, those sounds of gladness,"

and then continued the exercises with the 20th service in their accustomed book of devotions, and with the carol,

"Lift your glad voices in triumph on high."

Mr. Gardner, having made a few prefatory remarks, introduced Ripley Ropes, Esq., as the first speaker.

### MR. ROPES' ADDRESS.

This, my friends, is the beginning of a very busy day in the annals of the Church of the Saviour, but I believe it will be a very profitable day; and I doubt not that, when it is ended, we shall all be the happier for having done what we could to testify our love for the Master. I bless God with all my heart, with all my soul, and with all my

\*Mrs. Ellen O. Low, a highly esteemed member of the Church of the Saviour, died at her residence, in Tompkins Place, April 27, 1876, aged 68 years. She was the widow of James W. Low, formerly one of the Deacons of the Church.

mind, that, however it may be with other churches claiming to be, or said to be, of the liberal faith, there never has gone forth from the pulpit of *this* church any uncertain sound concerning Christ. God grant that it may always thus be so, for sad, sad indeed, will it be for the Church, and sad for all of us, as individuals, when we fail to confess the Master before men.

When I came in at that door this morning, the first thing that met my eye was the motto—those words there in flowers: "Christ is risen." It recalls an incident that occurred a few days since, and that made an impression on my own mind as I think it will also on yours.

A week ago to-day I was invited by a friend—who lives in the vicinity of this church—to go into the Sunday School of his church, which is not very far away, and hear the Sabbath School scholars sing their Easter hymns. There were, perhaps, one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty scholars there, including an infant class of, perhaps, twenty-five or thirty children. So, after they had sung a little hymn and sat down, the Superintendent said to them:

"I wonder, children, if there are any of you who can tell me what '*Easter*' means?"

After a moment passed, a little five-year old boy stood up and said:

"I know."

"Well, what does it mean?" said the superintendent.

The little boy said:

"It means '*Christ is risen.*'"

Now, I knew that little boy, I know him well, and I was resolved to follow the matter up and find his source of information, for I thought it very strange that a dozen little five-year old boys didn't say they knew! So, I went to his house a day or two after and I talked with him, and said I:

"How did you know what '*Easter*' meant?"

"Well," he said, "Mr. Ropes, I'll tell you. *I found that out in your church.* Last Easter-day my aunt—who