



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

10:30 Service of the Word

Mark's gospel ends very abruptly, even with an incomplete sentence. While Mark certainly did intend to end where he did, others were not content with his ending. Several endings have been added. Today we'll look at several of the most common. We'll see where they came from and how they have been used.

Welcome to worship today!

Please observe social distancing and remain conscious of the need to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In this bulletin is an insert that will be used to determine today's attendance. It will also help to identify who was here if contact tracing is necessary. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

The worship leader stands by the baptismal font. Water may be poured into it.

P: We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**C: Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us as companions on our journey as we share your life.**

P: Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

**C: To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.**

Amen.

Gathering Hymn Alleluia! Jesus is Risen
(For music turn to Hymn 377 in the Red Hymnal)

1. Alleluia!

Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

**Splendor, the Lamb,
heaven forever!**

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**2. Walking the way,
Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread,
giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.** *Refrain*

**3. Jesus the vine,
we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
gift of the future now flowing to me.** *Refrain*

**4. Weeping, be gone;
sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
“O grave, be open!”
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.** *Refrain*

**5. City of God
Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life,
saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM!** *Refrain*

Text: Herbert Brokering, Copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress; Music: David Johnson, copyright 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Dialog (Romans 10)

P: The word is near you,

C: on your lips and in your heart.

P: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

P: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Jesus among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading 1 Corinthians 15:3-10

B: [Paul writes:] For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 33:4-22 (read responsively)

D: The word of the Lord is true:
what God says, God does.

C: This lover of truth and justice

fills the earth with love.

D: God speaks: the heavens are made;
God breathes: the stars shine.

**C: God bottles the waters of the sea
and stores them in the deep.**

D: All earth, be astounded,
stand in awe of God.

**C: God speaks: the world is;
God commands: all things appear.**

D: God blocks the plans of nations,
disrupts all they contrive.

**C: But God's plan and designs
last from age to age.**

D: Blest is the land whose god is the Lord,
the heirs whom God has chosen.

**C: The Lord looks down
and sees our human kind.**

D: From heaven God surveys
all peoples on earth.

**C: The maker of human hearts
knows every human act.**

D: Armies do not save kings,
brute force does not spare soldiers.

**C: The warhorse is a sham;
despite its power, it will not save.**

D: God keeps a loving eye
on all who believe,
on those who count on God

**C: to bring relief from famine,
to rescue them from death.**

D: With all we are, we wait for God,
the Lord, our help, our shield.

**C: Our hearts find joy in the Lord;
we trust God's holy name.**

D: Love us, Lord!
We wait for you.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 3:14-17

E: As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is

useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 20:29)

C: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. Alleluia

Endings Added to Mark's Gospel

A: The “shorter ending”. This shows up in manuscripts as early as the 3rd century:

And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

B: The “longer ending”. References to this ending go as far back as the 2nd century:

⁹Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

¹²After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. ¹³And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ¹⁶The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

¹⁹So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

D: The “Freer Logion” is a rare insertion after verse 14 of the longer ending. The oldest copy of the Bible with these verses is from the early 5th century. It is on display in the Freer Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution:

And they excused themselves, saying, “This age of lawlessness and unbelief is under Satan, who does not allow the truth and power of God to prevail over the unclean things of this spirits. Therefore reveal your righteousness now” – thus they spoke to Christ. And Christ replied to them, “The term of years of Satan’s power has been fulfilled, but other terrible things draw near. And for those who have sinned I was handed over to death, that they may return to the truth and sin no more, that they may inherit the spiritual and imperishable glory of righteousness that is in heaven.”

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
(For music turn to Hymn 635 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e’re spoke:
“My peace be with you here.”**
2. **We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, “My Lord and God!”**
3. **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:**
4. **For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.**

**5. And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.**

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.; Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, Music copyright 1984 GIA Publications Inc.

Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

E: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

E: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

(Jude 20)

E: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Jude 21)*

E: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!**

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

† PRAYER †

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. These three petitions will be read by people in the congregation:

A: Grant the beauty of your peace to all of nature, its springtime flowers, its wildlife, its terrains. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and save lands that have been misused. Inspire us to care for the whole of your creation. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

B: Grant the abundance of your peace to all agencies of care in church and government. Show us the best ways to uphold and support those in need. Open our hearts to a world so filled with suffering, and make us always more generous with the gifts you have given us. Be with our missionaries, the Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the Rev. Karen Anderson. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

E: Grant the well-being of your peace to all who suffer. Visit all who are ill, especially those suffering from Covid-19, those without access to the vaccines, and those with strained medical resources. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

A: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with messages of Christ's peace.

Special Music

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

‡ SENDING ‡

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me
(For music see Hymn 860 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**
2. **Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**
3. **When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

Text and music: African American Spiritual

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Handwritten text: "Handwritten text" (vertical)



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