



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

10:30 Holy Communion

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!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is shown on a screen in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!
(For music see Hymn 382 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him
as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him,
rising up from griefs and tears.**

Refrain: **Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!**

**2. Christ is risen! All the sadness
of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness
he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending
see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending,
glory round his wounded brow.** *Refrain*

**3. Christ is risen! All the sorrow
that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow
in the rising of today.
See the grave its first-fruits giving,
springing up from holy ground;
Christ was dead but now is living;
he was lost, but he is found.** *Refrain*

**4. Christ is risen! Henceforth never
death or hell shall us enthrall.
We are Christ's, in him forever
we have triumphed over all.**

**All the doubting and dejection
of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection!
Let us rise and keep the feast. *Refrain***

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1873, alt. Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

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

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered
over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into
freedom's, land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal
life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with
the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the
floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
though the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise I Am the Resurrection and the Life

(For music turn to Hymn 16 in the Songbook binder)

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will never die
I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will live a new life.**

1. I have come to bring the truth

**I have come to bring you life
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

2. In My word all men will come to know

**it is love which makes the spirit grow
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

3. Keep in mind the things that I have said

**remember Me in the breaking of the bread
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

Text and music: Ray Repp, CCLI #9189, Copyright 1967 K & R Music Publishing

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 675 in the Blue 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. 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: Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816; arr. With one Voice, 1995. Arr. copyright Augsburg Fortress 1995

Nicene Creed

P: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again,
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

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. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

The congregation will respond: **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

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

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

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

† MEAL †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Risen One,

C: you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has embodied the promise of eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

491 *Come Let Us Eat (Red Hymnal)*

485 *I Am the Bread of Life (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

‡ SENDING ‡

Blessing

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always.

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

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939. Music: George Frederic Handel, 1685-1759

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Sue Kaufmann
Communion Assistants	Mary Zuege
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 14, 2024

Greeters and Ushers	Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour	

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor - William Shi, Pianist