



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Resurrection of Our Lord

March 31, 2024

10:30 Holy Communion

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

-from Sundays and Seasons 2024

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.

† GATHERING †

Prelude

Gathering Hymn Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds
(For music turn to Hymn 367 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
2. **Eternal is the gift he brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
3. **Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer through your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day
that by our lives we truly say:
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
4. **Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Gathering Dialog

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen,

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: And also with you.

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.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcements

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-9

B: On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

⁸Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 118:1-2, 14-25 (*read responsively*)

D: Give thanks, the Lord is good,
God's love is for ever!

**C: Now let all God's people say,
"God's love is forever!"**

D: My strength, my song is the Lord,
who has become my savior.

**C: Glad songs of victory sound
within the tents of the just.**

D: With right hand raised high,
the Lord strikes with force.

**C: I shall not die but live
to tell the Lord's great deeds.**

D: The Lord punished me severely,
but did not let me die.

**C: Open the gates of justice,
let me praise God within them.**

D: This is the Lord's own gate,
only the just will enter.

**C: I thank you for you answered me,
and you became my savior.**

D: The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone.

**C: This is the word of the Lord,
how wonderful in our eyes.**

D: This is the day the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad.

**C: Lord, give us the victory!
Lord, grant us success!**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:35-44

(from The Message translation of the Bible by Eugene Peterson)

E: [Paul writes] Some skeptic is sure to ask, "Show me how resurrection works. Give me a diagram; draw me a picture. What does this 'resurrection body' look like?" If you look at this question closely, you realize how absurd it is. There are no diagrams for this kind of thing. We do have a parallel experience in gardening. You plant a "dead" seed; soon there is a flourishing plant. There is no visual likeness between seed and plant. You could never guess what a tomato would look like by looking at a tomato seed. What we plant in the soil and what grows out of it don't look anything alike. The dead body that we bury in the ground and the resurrection body that comes from it will be dramatically different. You will notice that the variety of bodies is stunning. Just as there are different kinds of seeds, there are different kinds of bodies - humans, animals, birds, fish - each unprecedented in its form. You get a hint at the diversity of resurrection glory by looking at the diversity of bodies not only on earth but in the skies - sun, moon, stars - all these varieties of beauty and brightness. And we're only looking at pre-resurrection "seeds" - who can imagine what the resurrection "plants" will be like! This image of planting a dead seed and raising a live plant is a mere sketch at best, but perhaps it will help in approaching the mystery of the resurrection body - but only if you keep in mind that when we're raised, we're raised for good, alive forever! The corpse that's planted is no beauty, but when it's raised, it's glorious. Put in the ground weak, it comes up powerful. The seed sown is natural; the seed grown is supernatural - same seed, same body, but what a difference from when it goes down in physical mortality to when it is raised up in spiritual immortality!

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Exodus 15:1-2)

C: Alleluia. Let us sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously; our strength and our might, who has become our salvation. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Mark 16:1-8

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

And after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices in order to go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb just after sunrise. And they were continuously saying to each other, “Who will roll away the stone from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they observed the stone had been rolled away. It was very large.

And coming into the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, wearing a long white robe; and they were utterly amazed. He said to them, “Do not be utterly amazed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who has been crucified. He was raised. He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is leading before you to Galilee. There you will see him as he told you.”

And they went out and fled from the tomb, for they had become possessed with fear and amazement. And to no one nothing did they speak. They were afraid because.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Thine Is the Glory
(For music turn to Hymn 376 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Thine is the glory,
risen conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.**

Refrain **Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!**

2. **Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liv-eth;
death hath lost its sting!** *Refrain*

3. **No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above.** *Refrain*

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 Intercession "I Praise You for this Resurrection Madness"
from *Guerillas of Grace* by Ted Loder

A: Lord of such amazing surprises
as put a catch in my breath
and wings on my heart,
I praise you for this joy,
too great for words
but not for tears and songs and sharing;
for this mercy
that blots our my betrayals
and bids me to begin again,
to limp on,
to hop-skip-and-jump on,
to mend what is broken in and around me,
and to forgive the breakers;

B: for this YES
to life and laughter,
to love and lovers,
and to my unwinding self;
for this kingdom
unleashed in me and I in it forever,
and no dead ends to growing,
to choices,
to chances,
to calls to be just;
no dead ends to living,
to making peace,
to dreaming dreams,
to being glad of heart;

for this resurrection madness
which is wiser than I
and in which I see
how great you are,
how full of grace,
Alleluia! 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 *Easter Is Here* by J. Paul Williams and Jon Paige

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." For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we are thankful that you have reunited us with you at the table of life. Keep us always as your children and walk with us day by day in every day of our lives.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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)

1 *All Are Welcome (Songbook Binder)*

67 *How Great Is Our God (Songbook Binder)*

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

D: 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 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***

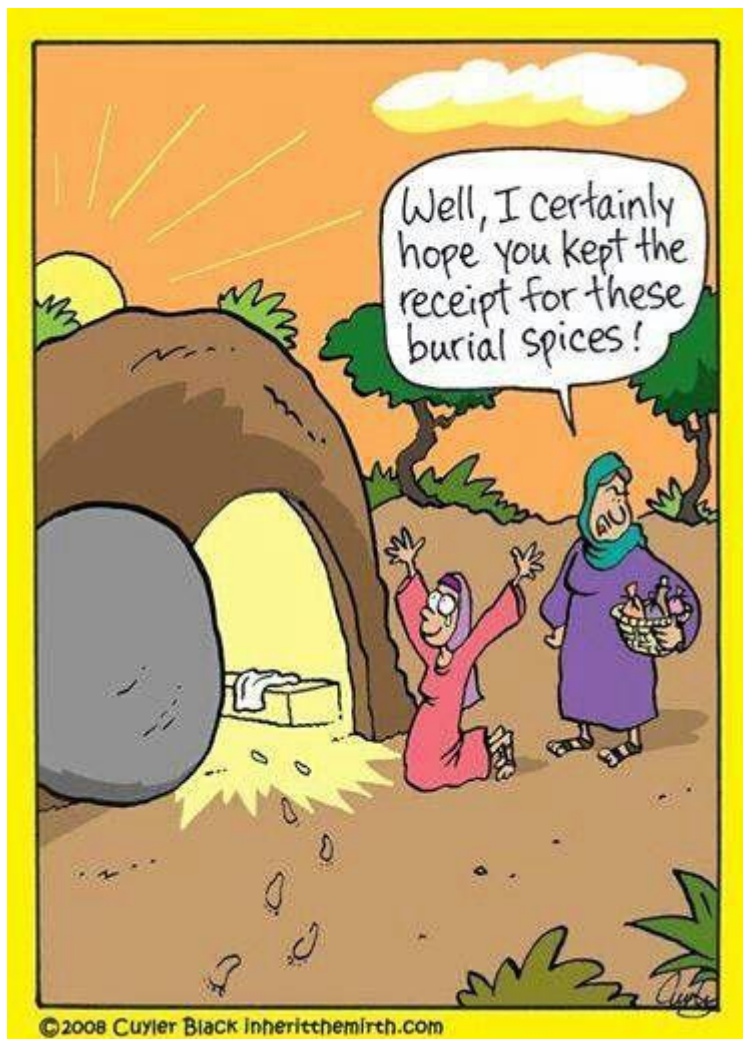
5. City of God

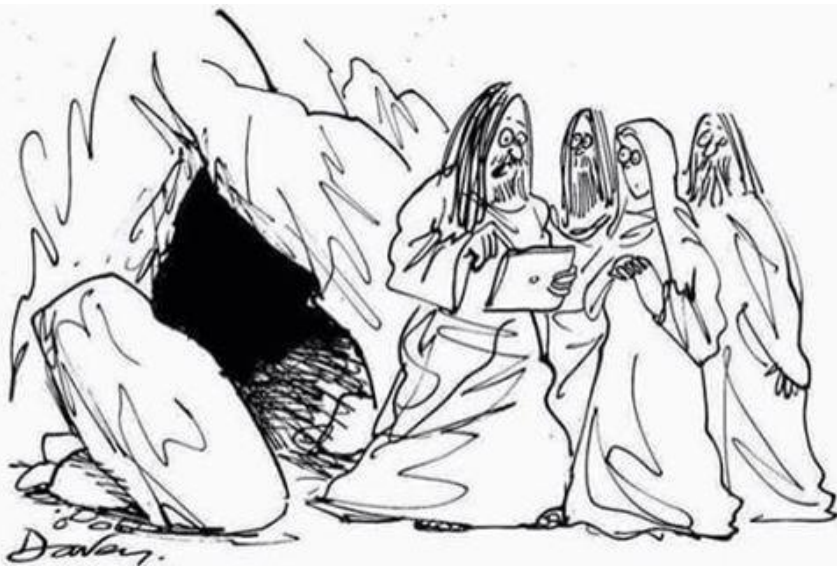
**Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life,
saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain***

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**





"He's not in there! Oh, wait - he's changed his status to 'risen' "

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Helen Crown
Acolyte Alyssa Young
Altar Care Emma Deibler
Communion Assistant Christine Campbell
Counters Helen Crown and Burdie Gillern

Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 7, 2024

Greeters and Ushers Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care Sue Kaufmann
Communion Assistant Mary Zuege
Counters
Coffee Hour

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Easter Flowers

The Ellis Family In memory of Linda Ellis
Jan Lockwood In memory of Marge and Al Zubel
Burdie Gillern In memory of Bill Gillern
Jonathan Deibler In honor of the church musicians
Karen and Jim Spawton In memory of loved ones
Sue Kaufmann In memory of loved ones
The Urbanics In memory of loved ones
Linn Griffio In memory of loved ones
Bethany Ensign In honor of Aaron's graduation
Don Betsinger In memory of loved ones
Tricia Kolczynski In memory of loved ones
The Wymans In memory of the Curtises and Linda Wyman
Becky Nohe In memory of loved ones
Nancy Shuler In memory of Ivan Shuler

St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
William Shi, Pianist