



*The Lord is Risen!*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday**

**April 20, 2025**

**Pastor:** Paula Geister-Jones     **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

**Organist/Pianist:** Linda Kunz   **Flute:** Andy Quam

**Lector:** (8:00) Sandy Grant

(9:15) Amber Daniels

**Ushers:** (8:00) *Jeffrey Morgan, Jerry Graffin, Jerry Buskager & Mark Holzhuter*

(9:15) *David Olson*

**Technical Support:** Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

“The last enemy to be destroyed is death,” Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Call to Worship:** “My Lord, What a Morning” Chancel Choir (8:00)

“He is Risen” Kyla Betts (9:15)

**Easter Gospel: Luke 24:1-12** (8:00 and 9:15)

**Pastor:** At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn’t find the body of the Master Jesus. They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this.

Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said,

**Angels (All): Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?**

**Pastor:** Then they remembered Jesus' words. They left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them kept telling these things to the apostles, but the apostles didn't believe a word of it, thought they were making it all up. But Peter jumped to his feet and ran to the tomb. He stooped to look in and saw a few grave clothes, that's all. He walked away puzzled, shaking his head.

*Stand*

**Hymn: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" #365 vs. 1,2 #365 ELW**

**Vs. 1: Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Vs. 2: Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**Greeting**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P:** The grace and peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

**P:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**P:** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**P:** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**P:** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**P:** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise: "Low in the Grave He Lay"**

**Vs. 1: Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,  
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord.**

***Refrain:* Up from the grave he arose,  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
he arose a victor over death's domain,  
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Vs. 3: Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;  
he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord. *Refrain***

**Salutation**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray.

**C: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

**Anthem: “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” Chancel Choir (8:00)**  
**Kyla Betts (9:15)**

**First Reading: Acts 10:34-43 (8:00)**

Peter fairly exploded with his good news: “It’s God’s own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you’re from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ everything is being put together again—well, he’s doing it everywhere, among everyone.”<sup>37-38</sup> “You know the story of what happened in Judea. It began in Galilee after John preached a total life-change. Then Jesus arrived from Nazareth, anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, ready for action. He went through the country helping people and healing everyone who was beaten down by the Devil. He was able to do all this because God was with him.”<sup>39-43</sup> “And we saw it, saw it all, everything he did in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem where they killed him, hung him from a cross. But in three days God had him up, alive, and out where he could be seen. Not everyone saw him—he wasn’t put on public display. Witnesses had been carefully handpicked by God beforehand—us! We were the ones, there to eat and drink with him after he came back from the dead. He commissioned us to announce this in public, to bear solemn witness that he is in fact the One whom God destined as Judge of the living and dead. But we’re not alone in this. Our witness that he is the means to forgiveness of sins is backed up by the witness of all the prophets.”

**P:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Gospel Canticle: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” First Class Ringers (8:00)**

**“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives” #380 vs. 1 (9:15)**

**Hallelujah! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One;  
From the gloomy halls of death Christ the conqueror, has gone,  
Bright forerunner to the skies of his people, yet to rise.**

*The Gospel is announced...*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter beginning with verse 4.

**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 24: 4-8**

They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?" Then they remembered Jesus' words.

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

**Children's Word (9:15)**

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Hymn: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #367 ELW**

**Vs. 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!**

**Vs. 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!**

**APOSTLES CREED**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Father?

**All:** I believe in God, the Father almighty,

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**P:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All:** 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.

**P:** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All:** 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.

**Prayers of Intercession** (*3 petitions only at 9:15*)

**P:** God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church,  
the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence*

**P:** Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share  
the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new  
ministries that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,

**C:** hear our prayer.

**P:** Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and  
mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows  
forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,

**C:** Hear our prayer.

**P:** Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead,  
bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise

up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** We commend all these prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us, in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Sharing of the Peace**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*Sit*

**Offering: "Flute Sonata" Flutist: Andy Quam (8:00)**

**"Amazing Grace" Handbell Solo: Lucas Peterson (9:15)**

### **Offering Prayer**

**P:** Risen one,

**C: you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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:** Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

### **Communion Distribution:**

*While music is played people are invited to either take communion in the pews or come forward to the communion railing, kneel and receive the bread and*

### **Communion Blessing**

**P:** The body and blood of our Risen Lord and Savior strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**P:** Living One,

**All: in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us not to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

### **Announcements**

*Stand*

### **Benediction**

**P:** The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.



**C: Amen!**

**Dismissal**

**P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.**

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Sending Hymn: “Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing” ELW #385 vs. 1, 2**

**vs. 1: Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!**

**Now is the triumph of our king!**

**To all the world glad news we bring:**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**vs. 2: The Lord of life is ris'n this day;**

**death's mighty stone is rolled away;**

**let all the world rejoice and say:**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Postlude: “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” Williams/Callahan**