



The Lord is Risen!

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

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

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Special Music: Karen Warwick, Kyla Betts & Liz Itzen

Lector: (8:00) Marti Conant (9:15) Mike Warwick

Acolytes: (8:00) Greta Hanson & Graceyn Millhouse

Sadie Soderling & Lauren Koch (9:15)

Ushers: (8:00) Todd Skavlen, Mark Wilberg, Eric Smedal & Roger Nitzshe

(9:15) TBA

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "All Hail the Risen King" First Class Ringers

EASTER GOSPEL: John 20: 1-18 (8:00 and 9:15)

P: ¹⁻² Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved

away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, gasping for breath.

Women (Women and Girls) They took the Master from the tomb. We don't know where they've put him.

P: ³⁻¹⁰ Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself. Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. No one yet knew from the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. The disciples then went back home. ¹¹⁻¹³ But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus' body had been laid. They said to her,

Angels (Men and Boys) Woman, why do you weep?

Mary (Women and Girls) They took my Master and I don't know where they put him.

P: After she said this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't recognize him. ¹⁵ Jesus spoke to her,

Jesus (All): Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?

P: She, thinking that he was the gardener, said,

Mary (Women and Girls): Sir, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him.

P: ¹⁶ Jesus said,

Jesus (Men and Boys) Mary.

P: Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, "*Rabboni!*" meaning

Mary (Women and Girls) Teacher!

P: ¹⁷ Jesus said,

Jesus (Men and Boys) Don't cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.'"

P: ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: "I saw the Master!" And she told them everything he said to her.

Stand

HYMN: “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” #365 ELW Vss. 1,2

**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” Vss. 1 & 3

**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: “Run, Mary, Run” Chancel Choir / Ben Foltz on Trumpet(8:00)
“ I Will Rise” Duet by Kyla Betts & Liz Itzen (9:15)**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:1-6 (8:00)

¹“And when that happens”—God’s Decree—“it will be plain as the sun at high noon: I’ll be the God of every man, woman, and child in Israel and they shall be my very own people.” ²⁻⁶This is the way God put it: “They found grace out in the desert, these people who survived the killing. Israel, out looking for a place to rest, met God out looking for them!” God told them, “I’ve never quit loving you and never will. Expect love, love, and more love! And so now I’ll start over with you and build you up again, dear virgin Israel. You’ll resume your singing, grabbing tambourines and joining the dance. You’ll go back to your old work of planting vineyards on the Samaritan hillsides, And sit back and enjoy the fruit—oh, how you’ll enjoy those harvests! The time’s coming

when watchmen will call out from the hilltops of Ephraim: ‘On your feet! Let’s go to Zion, go to meet our God!’”

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: “Hallelujah! Jesus Lives” #380 ELW vs. 1

**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 Matthew the 28th

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 28: 1-10

¹⁻⁴ After the Sabbath, as the first light of the new week dawned, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to keep vigil at the tomb. Suddenly the earth reeled and rocked under their feet as God’s angel came down from heaven, came right up to where they were standing. He rolled back the stone and then sat on it. Shafts of lightning blazed from him. His garments shimmered snow-white. The guards at the tomb were scared to death. They were so frightened, they couldn’t move. ⁵⁻⁶ The angel spoke to the women: “There is nothing to fear here. I know you’re looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross. He is not here. He was raised, just as he said. Come and look at the place where he was placed. ⁷ “Now, get on your way quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He is risen from the dead. He is going on ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.’ That’s the message.” ⁸⁻¹⁰ The women, deep in wonder and full of joy, lost no time in leaving the tomb. They ran to tell the disciples. Then Jesus met them, stopping them in their tracks. “Good morning!” he said. They fell to their knees, embraced his feet, and worshiped him. Jesus said, “You’re holding on to me for dear life! Don’t be frightened like that. Go tell my brothers that they are to go to Galilee, and that I’ll meet them there.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDRENS WORD (9:15)/WORD

Stand

Hymn: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #367 ELW Vss. 1 & 4

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 at 9:15*)

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence

P: Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain. Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through 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: "My Lord What A Morning Chancel Choir (8:00)

Kyla Betts & Liz Itzen (9:15)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God,

C accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORDS 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 new life. Receive the risen Lord. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Karen Warwick - Dulcimer

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 wine.

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy One,

All: through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

Benediction

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen!

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace! Praise the Lord! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**SENDING HYMN: “Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing”
385 ELW vss. 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: “Victory” by Palestrina arr. by Hopson & McCarthy