

This Week's Focus: *His resurrection dries our tears; he has risen for the poor and lowly, the weak and the undeserving, for you and for me! His resurrection drives away all our fears!*

OPENING HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today | 157

- 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!**
- 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!**
- 3 **But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation has procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!**

Please stand for the final stanza.

- 4 **Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

EASTER RESPONSES

M: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed.**

M: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

M: I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

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

M: The Lord's right hand was majestic in power. The Lord's right hand shattered the enemy. In the greatness of his majesty he threw down those who opposed him.

C: Death has been swallowed up in victory.

M: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

C: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

M: The Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water.

C: And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Lord, we confess to you our sinful condition and our sinful behavior.

C: Have mercy on us, Father in heaven. Bless us and keep us.

M: Lord, we realize that we have earned your temporal and eternal punishment.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus. Make your face shine on us and be gracious to us.

M: Lord, we are not able to make up for our sins, nor can we set ourselves free from the guilt of our sin.

C: Have mercy on us, Holy Spirit. Turn your face toward us and give us peace.

Silence for personal reflection

M: Jesus was delivered over to death because of our sins. He was raised to life because God declared us righteous. Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven. Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. In love you have given your Son, Jesus Christ, into death for us and raised him to life again; so raise us from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. ⁹In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

ANTHEM

Hallelujah Chorus

Sung by Easter Festival Choir

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth! Hallelujah! The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ.

And he shall reign for ever and ever. King of kings and Lord of lords!
Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

SOLO

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song; this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save: till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied - for every sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain: Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave he rose again! And as he stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me, for I am his and he is mine - bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand: till he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

⁸Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EASTER CONFSSION OF FAITH *A portion of the Athanasian Creed*

The Athanasian Creed was written to defend the correct Trinitarian teaching of Athanasius against the error of Arius, who denied the true deity of Christ. A person cannot be saved without faith in the Triune God. "Luther regarded this creed as possibly the grandest production of the church since the time of the apostles." (Lutheran Cyclopedia, 1954)

We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons but one, one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being; so God and man are one Christ.

He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds. Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire. This is the true Christian faith. Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | 152

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head!
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

SERMON

Mark 16:1-8

He is Risen!

*Lose the baggage * Look for yourself * Leave with excitement*

- 1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.
- 2 Our hearts be pure from evil That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
And, list'ning to his accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.
- 3 Now let the heav'ns be joyful; Let earth her song begin.
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen; Our joy shall have no end.

OFFERING

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off during scheduled office hours, or given online.



Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ from the dead.

C: **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

M: In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

C: **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

M: Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep

before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

C: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.

M: Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

C: Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.

M: Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

M: Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

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

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns | 341

- 1 **Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.**
- 2 **Crown him the Lord of love -- Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright.**
- 3 **Crown him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.**
- 4 **Crown him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns For he is King of all.**

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH THIS MORNING ARE IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING LOVED ONES:

Ione Prange & family.....Gaylord Prange Jr.
Ann Austreng.....Grace Jaeger, Bernetta Brendel
Janet Bitter.....Melwin Bitter
Deb & Steve Schueler.....Elmer & Carol Pieper
David & Patti Wehrmann.....Roger Wehrmann
Tom & Susan Phelps.....Paul G. Phelps
Erwin & Eunice Eickhoff.....Ron Behnke
Justin & Erin Radue.....Tricia Dittmar
Ed & Sandy Strauss.....Rueben Hoppe, Dean Strauss
Loren & Dawn Reinemann.....Janet Sommer
Carol Reinemann.....Lee Reinemann
Andrea Fischer.....Sandra Korth Maass
Linda Hamann.....Ronald Hamann
Eileen Perronne.....Bergetta Schwinn
Rachel Biertzer.....Orville & Irene Peters
David & Amy Hoppe.....Rueben Hoppe, Dean Strauss

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.”

John 11:25-26

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller

ORGANIST: Gillian Curia

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Greg Johnson, Nikki Leahy, Nick Schmidt, and Sue Vant Hul

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Nack, Lisa Specht, Ione Prange.

USHERS: 7:00 a.m.: Dan Radue, Austin Radue, Nick Binsfeld. 9:00 a.m.: Logan Schroeder, Eric Eickhoff, Bryan Koeser, Chad Pennings. 11:00 a.m.: Eric Vant Hul, Evan Vant Hul, Jamie Haas, Joe Grzonka.

OFFERING: 03/28 & 03/29 - \$13,760. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) ADDITIONAL \$2,240 - GROWING FORWARD.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: 3/28-8:00 A.M.: 182, 10:30 A.M.: 154.