

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day Festival Eucharist

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday, March 31, 2024 11:00 am The image on the bulletin cover is of an icon of the resurrection depicting Christ having destroyed the gates of Hades. Flanked by saints, Christ is pulling Adam and Eve out of death into life. At the bottom of the image, Satan appears as an old man bound and chained.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader. **Bold text indicates the congregational response.**

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the cranberry-colored *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

On this day the Lord has acted! On the first day of the week God began creation, transforming darkness into light. On this, the "eighth day" of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. We celebrate this new creation in the waters of baptism and in the feast of victory. With great joy we celebrate this day of days, even as we begin the great fifty days of Easter. Filled with hope, we go forth to share the news that Christ is risen!



Prelude This Joyful Eastertide arr. Raymond Haan

Welcome Prayer Requests

Music for Meditation The Strife Is O'er arr. Richard Webster

We stand as we are able.

Opening Dialog

- P: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!
- C: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

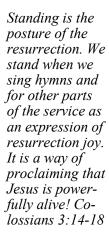
from an ancient prayer used at the lighting of the Paschal candle during the Easter Vigil, known as the

Exultet.

The opening dia-

log borrows

We turn and face the processional cross as it enters the nave, as we sing the hymn on the next page.





We begin services in Eastertide with the Paschal Greeting, which recalls the resurrected Jesus' greeting to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (Matt 28:6). The apostolic greeting which follows quotes the apostle Paul (2 Cor. 13:14)

Greeting

- Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!
- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

We continue by singing the hymn of praise on the next page.

The Hymn of Praise, Worthy Is Christ, is sometimes referred to as the Easter song of triumph and is adapted from Revelation 5:9-13 and 19:4-9.

Hymn of Praise Worthy Is Christ



The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar

The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.

During the Sundays of Easter, the first lesson is from the Acts of the Apostles.

A psalm is spoken or sung in response to the first reading.

Prayer of the Day

P 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

We are seated.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43 L A reading from Acts.

Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 118:14-17, 21-24

The choir sings the refrain, and all repeat it. The congregation sings the refrain as indicated.



On this day the Lord has act-ed; we will re-joice and be glad in it.

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!

The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

I shall not die but live,

and declare the works of the Lord. **Refrain**

The Lord has punished me sorely, but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness;
 I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

"This is the gate of the Lord;
 he who is righteous may enter."

I will give thanks to you for you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing,
 and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the Lord has acted;
 we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Refrain

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.

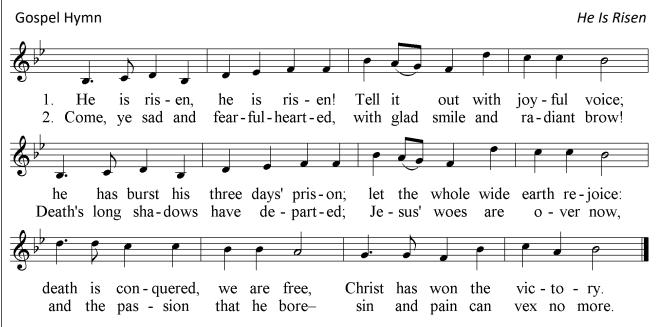
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

During the Gospel Hymn, we turn to face the processional cross as we prepare to encounter the Risen Christ in the reading of the Gospel.



The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

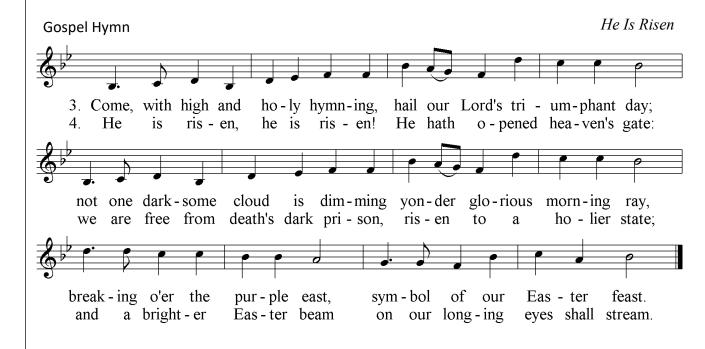
The Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.



We sit.

Sermon Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

Hymn

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives



- 1 Hal-le lu jah! Je sus lives! He is now the Liv ing One;
- 2 Je sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn ful sigh?
- 3 Je sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e ter nal waits for you;
- 4 Je sus lives! Let all re joice. Praise him, ran somed of the earth.
- 5 Hal-le lu jah! An gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



halls of from the gloom-y death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone, Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth-er still on high, joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too: Praise him in no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth. a swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise: your cho - rus



bright fore - run - ner skies to the of his peo - ple, yet rise. his church be - low. lives for - ev - er be - stow bless-ings on to with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand. king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey. Praise the vic - tor Glo - ry God a - bove and on earth his peace and love! to our

The Nicene Creed (which begins, "We believe...") has been used in worship since the 5th century

The Creed

P Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

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 Holy Spirit and 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

We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Much more than a pleasant greeting—we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace.
2 Corinthians 13:11

Our gifts are received and dedicated to our Lord's service. These offerings support the ministries of this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We greet one another, saying "Peace be with you."

Offertory Anthem

This Joyful Eastertide

·

Vernon Hoyle

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain.
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. Had Christ, who once was slain...

Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.

Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.

Had Christ, who once was slain...

- text by George R. Woodward





As our gifts of offerings and tithes are brought forward we sing a canticle of thanksgiving for God's generous goodness.

Offertory

Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

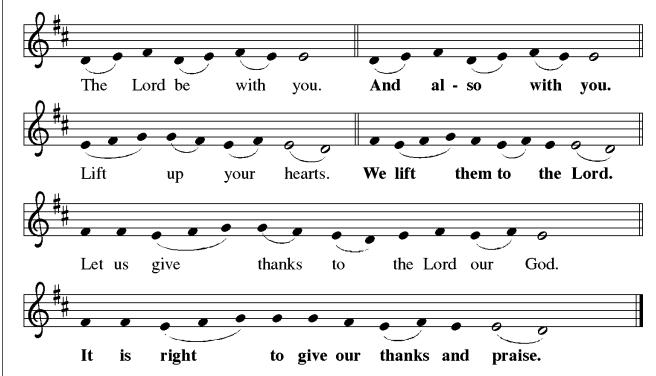
The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.

Offertory 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

Thanksgiving Dialogue



The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.

The Sanctus ("holy") echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.

The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

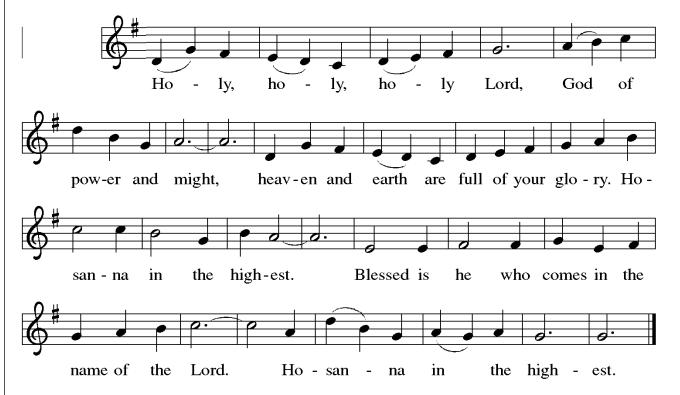
The Proper Preface

The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."

The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending

hymn."

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

- P With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P With Saint Mark and your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- C Amen

The Lord's Prayer Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to The Lord's Prayer P Lord remember C Our Father, while the Lord's Prayer P Lord remember to the Lord's P Lord remember to the Lo

a conclusion.

Prayed here,

becomes the

this familiar and

beloved prayer

table-prayer of

the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5

-15

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

We are seated.



COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle, forming two lines to receive communion at the altar rail. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus

All sing the refrain; the choir sings the verses, and all repeat the refrain after each verse.



The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je-sus in the break-ing of the bread.

Choir: The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Choir: One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.





Once we have all received the sacrament and returned to our seats, we celebrate the personal encounter with the risen Christ through blessing, prayer, and singing. **Post-Communion Blessing**

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

- P Let us pray. Shepherding God,
- C 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. Amen

Blessing of Easter

- P God the Father, who raised Christ Jesus from the dead, continually show us loving kindness.
- C Amen
- P God the Son, victor over sin and death, grant us a share in the joy of his resurrection.
- C Amen
- P God the Spirit, giver of light and peace, renew our hearts in love.
- C Amen
- P May almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, continue to bless us, now and forever.
- C Amen



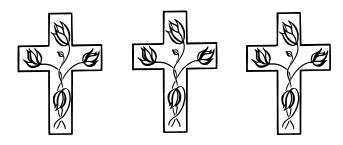
We are dismissed from worship knowing that our service does not end. Rather, having been in the presence of the risen Lord, we leave so that our service may truly begin.

Dismissal

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P Go in peace loving the risen Lord and loving your neighbor. Alleluia, alleluia.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude Thine Be the Glory Aaron David Miller

We give thanks to God for the gifts shared in worship today by trumpeters George Saunders and Matthew Warnock. Welcome, George and Matt!



Gifts for Easter Flowers and Music

Anonymous

in honor of Pat Gibbs

and Sonny & Charlotte Scholz

Ralph & Sandy Anders

in honor of Nan Keenan

Linda Anderson

Howard & Loretta Barnard

in loving memory of Ernest & Mildred Barnard

Harry Brewbaker

in honor of Connie Watkins

Betty Burrows

in memory of Howard and Gregg Burrows

Pat Gibbs

in memory of Wally & Pokey Himes

and Brad Gibbs

Cheryl Gordon

in memory of Steve Gordon

Jacob Gordon

in honor of the St. Mark's choir

David Johnson

Betty & Tim Jones

Nan Keenan

in memory of Clarence & Becky Keenan

Lisa Kincer

Eric & Patti Mills

in honor of family members

Teresa Stowasser

Sabina Ugochukwu

Susie Ware

in memory of Robert & Barbara McLelland

and Herbert & Virginia May Scholz

Becky Whisnant

in memory of my parents,

Bob & Barbara McLelland

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S			
Sunday, March 31 The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day	7:30AM 8:30AM 11AM	Worship with Holy Communion Easter Breakfast Festival Worship with Holy Communion	
Monday, April 1		Church Office Closed	
	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open	
Tuesday, April 2			
Wednesday, April 3			
Thursday, April 4			
Friday, April 5	10AM—Noon 6:30PM	The Lion's Share open NA meeting (Library)	
Saturday, April 6	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)	
Sunday, April 7 Second Sunday of Easter	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion	

SERVING IN WORSHIP				
	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>		
Greeter	Becky Whisnant	Jessica & Parker Thompson		
Lector	Karen Arthur	Nan Keenan		
Communion Assistant	Eric Mills & Donna Abbott	Lois Ashby & Donna Abbott		
Coffee Hour				

Attendance Last Sunday 97
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose) \$2,363.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose) \$3,531.00



Ministers and Staff

Ministers: Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church Secretary / Financial Administrator: Kathy Bryant Organist / Choir Director: Jacob Gordon Pastor: James Armentrout

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Jesus Christ Is Risen Today—text: Latin carol, 14th. cent., sts 1-3, tr. J. Walsh, Charles Wesley, st. 4; music: Easter Hymn, J. Walsh. He Is Risen—text: Cecil Frances Alexander; music: Unser Herrscher, Joachim Neander.

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives—text: Carl B. Garve, tr. Jane L. Borthwick; music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman.

Christ Arose!—text: Robert Lowry; music: Christ Arose, Robert Lowry.

He Lives—text and music: Alfred H. Ackley. Text and music © 1933, renewed 1961, Word Music, LLC. Used by permission, ONE LICENSE, License #A-729546

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing—text: Latin hymn, 17th cent., tr. Robert Campbell, alt.; music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze.