

Dominus meus et deus meus
"My Lord and My God!"
Noli esse incredulus sed fidelis
"Do not doubt but believe."

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27, 2025
11:00 A.M.

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 a congregational response.

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

Please leave your offering in the plate at the front of the nave, near the pulpit. If you would like to give online, please use the QR code to the right.



Standing is the posture of the resurrection. We stand when we sing hymns and for other parts of the service as an expression of resurrection joy. It is a way of proclaiming that Jesus is powerfully alive! Colossians 3:14-18

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)

Welcome
Prayer Requests

Prelude

This Joyful Eastertide

arr. Robert Hobby

ENTRANCE RITE

We stand as we are able.

Opening Dialog

A Christ is risen! and we are risen with him.

C Christ is risen! and life eternal is ours.

A Christ is risen! and death has met its master.

C Christ is risen! and the way to heaven is open.

A Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn 363

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Greeting

P 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.

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

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 5:27-32

L A reading from Acts.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 150

*We chant the psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the verses in **bold**.*

¹Hallelujah! Praise God in the ¹ holy temple;
praise God in the ¹ mighty firmament.

²**Praise God for ¹ mighty acts;**
praise God for ex-¹ ceeding greatness.

³Praise God with ¹ trumpet sound;
praise God with ¹ lyre and harp.

⁴**Praise God with tambou-¹ rine and dance;**
praise God with ¹ strings and pipe.

⁵Praise God with re-¹ sounding cymbals;
praise God with loud ¹ clanging cymbals.

⁶**Let everything ¹ that has breath**
praise the LORD. ¹ Hallelujah!

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church. In lectionary year C, the second lesson is from Revelation.

Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4-8

L A reading from Revelation

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The sequence hymn frames the reading of the Holy Gospel. It gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.

Hymn

We Walk by Faith

1. We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2. We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found.

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. We stand as we encounter the risen Lord in the reading of the gospel.

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

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

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn

We Walk by Faith

4. For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
5. And when our life of faith is done, in
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

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

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn

These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

1. These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
 2. The vi - sion of his skept - tic mind was keen e-
 3. His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied That one could
 4. May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, the grain of wood, the heft of
 - nough to make him blind to an - y un - ex - pect - ed
 live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like
 ris - en Christ re - ceive, whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached

stone, the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
 act too large for his small world of and fact.
 Braille The mark - ings of the spear and nail.
 out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

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

The Creed

A 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 jus-
 tice, for those in
 need. 1 Timothy
 2:1-2*

*Much more than
 a pleasant greet-
 ing—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 min-
 istries of this
 congregation,
 the Virginia Syn-
 od, ELCA, and
 our global mis-
 sion partners.*

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

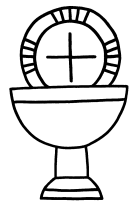
A Lord, in your mercy,
 C **hear our prayer.**

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."



The Offering

Offertory Anthem

O Sons and Daughter, Let Us Sing

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O sons and daughters, let us sing
 with heavn'ly hosts to Christ our king:
 today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard
 that they had seen the risen Lord,
 he doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!

My piercé side, O Thomas, see,
 and look upon my hands, my feet;
 not faithless, but believing be. Alleluia, alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen,
 and yet whose faith has constant been,
 for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- text attr. Jean Tisserand, tr. J. M. Neal

This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
 sprung to life this mor - row. Had Christ, who once was
 slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our faith had been in
 vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -
 ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

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

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. 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**

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

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

Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Proper Preface

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

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

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.

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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.

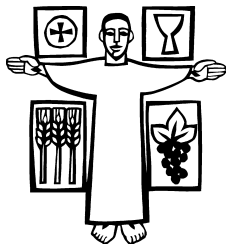
C **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion. Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15

The 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

We are seated.



COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
 WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle, and we return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



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

A Let us pray. Living One,
C in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen

Blessing

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

In Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary, the cycle of scripture lessons we follow, the second reading for the Sundays of Easter is taken from the Book of Revelation. Our closing hymns for the rest of this Easter season were chosen for their reflection of that day's reading from Revelation.

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.

Hymn

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1. Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2. Ev' - ry eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3. Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand, thou - sand saints at -
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty. Those who set at nought and
 thine e - ter - nal throne! Sa - vior, take the pow'r and

- tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his train. Al - le -
 sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly
 glo - ry, claim the king - dom for thine own. O come

- lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 quick - ly! O come quick - ly! O come quick - ly!

Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 Al - le lu - ia! Come, Lord, come!

Dismissal

A Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

A Go in peace loving the risen Lord and loving your neighbor. Alleluia, alleluia.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, April 27 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM 3PM 4PM	Worship with Holy Communion Confirmation (at St. Mark's) Roanoke Valley Lutheran Youth (meet by Center in the Square)
Monday, April 28	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, April 29		
Wednesday, April 30		
Thursday, May 1		
Friday, May 2	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, May 3	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, May 4 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter	Betty Burrows	Howard Barnard
Lector	MaryAnne Meloy	Gary Feazelle
Communion Assistant	Jerry McDaniel & Mary Ann Snider	Donna Abbott & Evan Odson
Coffee Hour	Mary Brewer	

Attendance Last Sunday	98
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$2942.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3173.00



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor

Ministers and Staff

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

Liturgical texts reprinted by permission, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License SAS003958. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture readings are from *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

We Walk by Faith—text: Henry Alford, alt; music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson.

These Things Did Thomas Count as Real—text: Thomas Troeger; music: DISTRESS, W. Walker. Text © 1984 Oxford University Press. Used by permission, ONE LICENSE, License #A-729546.

This Joyful Eastertide—text: George R. Woodward; music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune.

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending—text: Charles Wesley, alt.; music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers.