



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 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 quotes the apostle Paul (2 Cor. 13:14) The Hymn of Praise, Worthy

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

arr. Walter Pelz

We stand as we are able.

ENTRANCE RITE

Opening Dialog

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

C Christ is risen! and life eternal is ours.

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

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

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn 369

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

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.

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.

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 The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through 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 9:36-43

L A reading from Acts.

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

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

The Lord | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

You restore my | soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for | your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.**

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 5:11-14

L A reading from Revelation

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand as we are able.

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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1. Good Chris-tian friends, re-joyce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2. The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joyce and say:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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 10:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

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

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

3. Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4. Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn 502

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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,**

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

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

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:

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."

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep

Raymond H. Haan

Loving shepherd of Thy sheep,
 Keep Thy lamb, in safety keep;
 Nothing can Thy power withstand,
 None can pluck me from Thy hand.

Loving shepherd, ever near,
 Teach Thy lamb Thy voice to hear,
 Suffer not my steps to stray
 From the straight and narrow way.

Where Thou ledest I would go,
 Walking in Thy steps below,
 Till before my Father's throne
 I shall know as I am known.



- Jane E. Leeson

Offertory

This Joyful Eastertide

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.

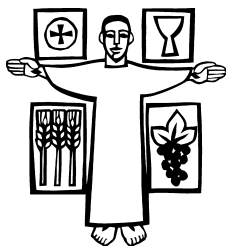
*Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation.
Luke 11:1-13;
Matthew 6:5-15*

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.

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.



We stand as we are able.

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. We give you thanks, generous God,
C **for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
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

Who Are These Like Stars Appearing



1 Who are these like stars ap - pear - ing, these be - fore God's throne who stand?
 2 Who are these of daz - zling bright-ness, these in God's own truth ar - rayed,
 3 These are they who have con - ten - ded for their Sa - vior's ho - nor long,
 4 These are they whose hearts were riv - en, sore with woe and an - guish tried,
 5 These, like priests, have watched and wait - ed, of - fring up to Christ their will;

Each a gold - en crown is wear - ing; who are all this glo - rious band?
 clad in robes of pur - est white-ness, robes whose lus - ter ne'er shall fade,
 wres - tling on 'til life was end - ed, fol - l'wing not the sin - ful throng;
 who in prayer full oft have striv - en with the God they glo - ri - fied;
 soul and bo - dy con - se - crat - ed, day and night to serve him still:

Al - le - lu - ia! Hark, they sing, prais - ing loud their heav'n - ly King.
 ne'er be touched by time's rude hand? Whence come all this glo - rious band?
 these, who well the fight sus - tained, tri - umph by the Lamb have gained.
 now, their pain - ful con - flict o'er, God has bid them weep no more.
 now in God's most ho - ly place blest they stand be - fore his face.

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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

arr. Healey Willan

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, May 11 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, May 12	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, May 13		
Wednesday, May 14		
Thursday, May 15		
Friday, May 16	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, May 17		Yard Sale
	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, May 18 <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter		
Lector		
Communion Assistant		
Coffee Hour		

Attendance Last Sunday

Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)

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

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Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing—text: Cyril A. Alington.; music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius. Text © 1958, ren. 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission, ONE LICENSE, License #A-729546.

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

Who Are These Like Stars Appearing—text: Heinrich Theobald Schenk, tr. Frances Elizabeth Scott.; music: ZEUCH MICH, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1698.