

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day Festival Eucharist

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 5, 2026
11:00 am

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.



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. The Greek title (*ē anastasis*) translates as "The Resurrection."

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

Alan Bullard

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Music for Meditation

The Strife Is O'er

Alan Bullard

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!

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

The opening dialog borrows from an ancient prayer used at the lighting of the Paschal candle during the Easter Vigil, known as the Exultet.

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

Hymn

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

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.**

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

Refrain



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



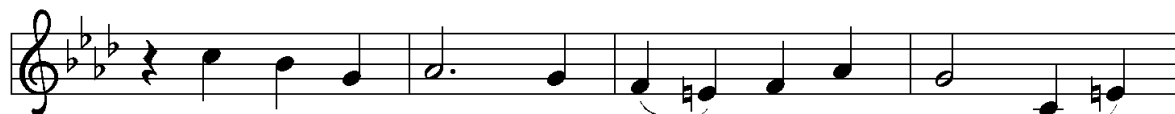
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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



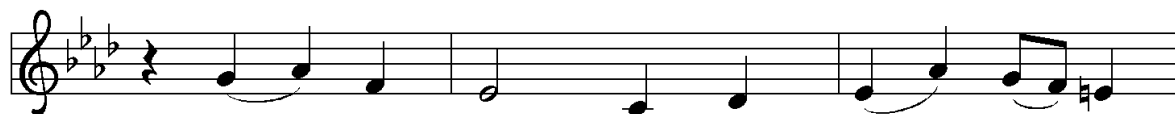
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



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



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 -



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

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: Colossians 3:1-4
 L A reading from Colossians.

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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.

Gospel Hymn

He Is Risen



1. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with joy - ful voice;
 2. Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and ra - dian - t brow!



he has burst his three days' pris - on; let the whole wide earth re - joice:
 Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed; Je - sus' woes are o - ver now,



death is con - quered, we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
 and the pas - sion that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.

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: Matthew 28:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

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

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel Hymn

He Is Risen



3. Come, with high and ho-ly hymn-ing, hail our Lord's tri - um-phant day;
4. He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened hea-ven's gate:



not one dark-some cloud is dim-ming yon-der glo-rious morn-ing ray,
we are free from death's dark pri - son, ris - en to a ho - lier state;



break - ing o'er the pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
and a bright - er Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

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

Earth, Earth, Awake!

1. Earth, earth, a - wake! Your prais-es sing! Greet with the dawn your ris - en
2. All na-ture sings of hope re-born! Christ lives to com - fort those who
3. Win - ter is past; the night is gone! Christ's light, tri - um-phant, brings the
4. Praise we the Fa - ther, Spir-it, Son! Praise we the vic - t'ry God has

King! Bright suns and stars, your hom - age
mourn! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! First fruit of all the dead who
dawn! Cre - a - tion spreads its spring-time
won! Praise we the Lamb who reigns a -

pay! Life reigns a - gain this Eas - ter day!
sleep! Prom - ise of joy for all who weep! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le-
bloom! Life bursts like flame from death's cold tomb!
- bove! Praise we the King whose rule is love!

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

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

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

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

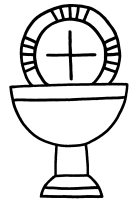
THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

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

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.”



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.

Offertory Anthem

Love’s Redeeming Work Is Done

David Ogden

Love's redeeming work is done,
 fought the fight, the battle won.
 Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
 Lo, he sets in blood no more!

Lives again our victorious King;
 where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Dying once, he all doth save;
 where thy victory, O grave?

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal!
 Christ has burst the gates of hell;
 death in vain forbids him rise;
 Christ has opened paradise.

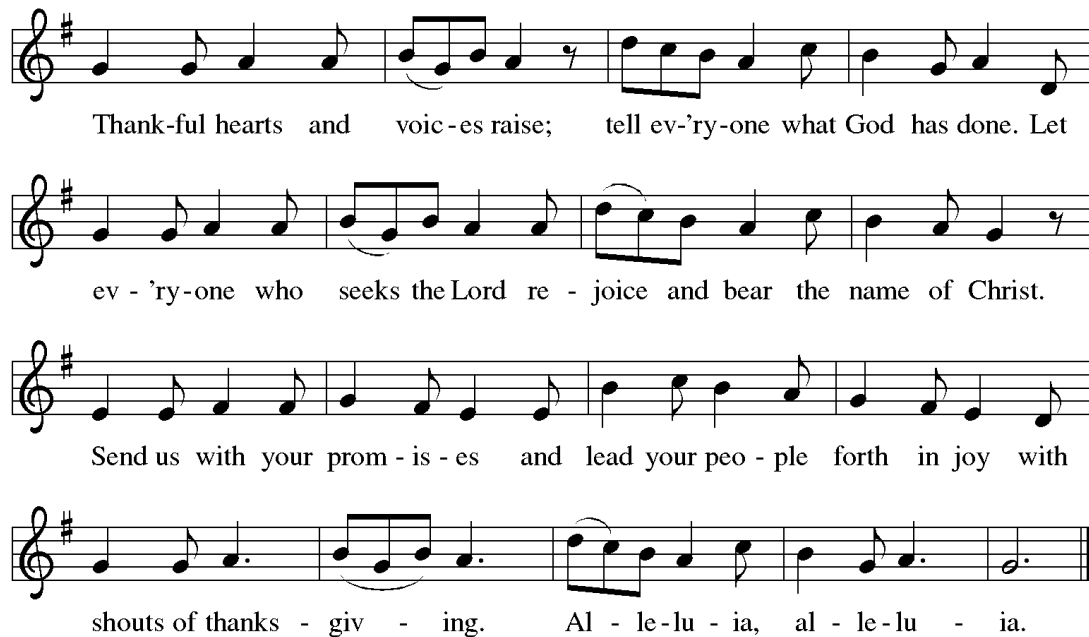
Soar we now where Christ has led,
 following out exalted Head;
 made like him, like him we rise,
 ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
 Praise to thee by both be given:
 thee we greet triumphant now;
 hail, the Resurrection thou!

- text by Charles Wesley

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

Offertory Response



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

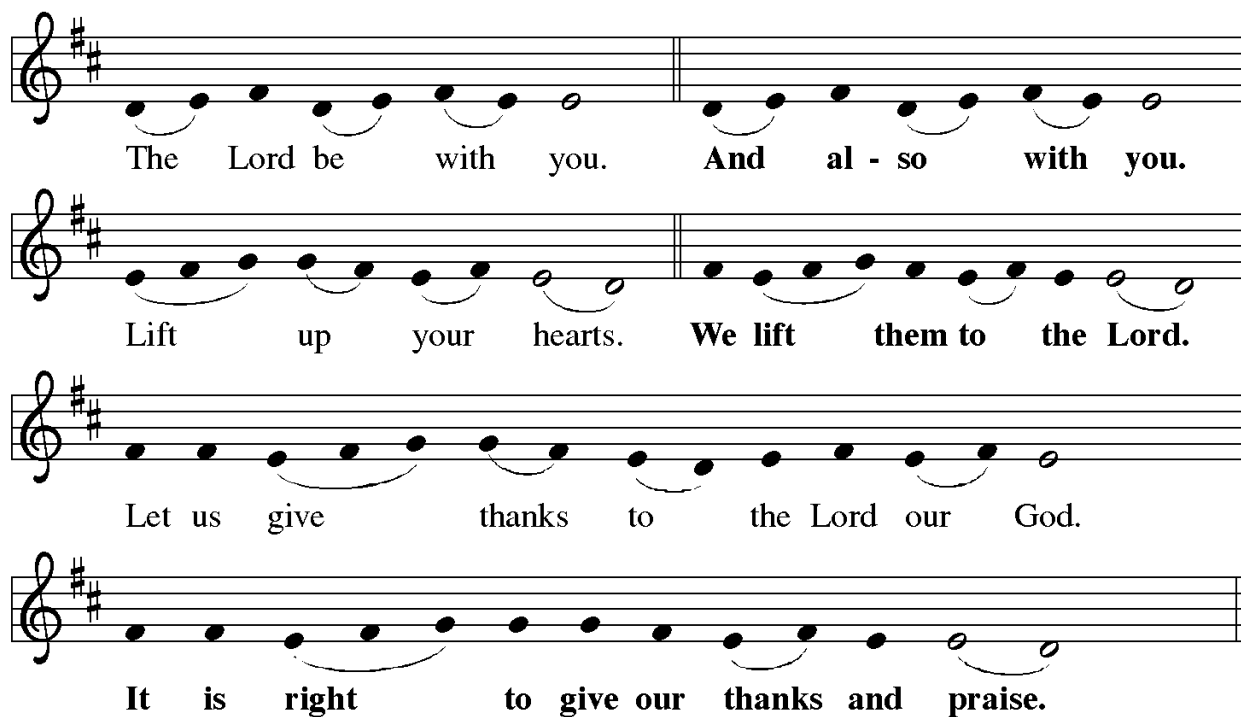
Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. 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.**

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

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 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.

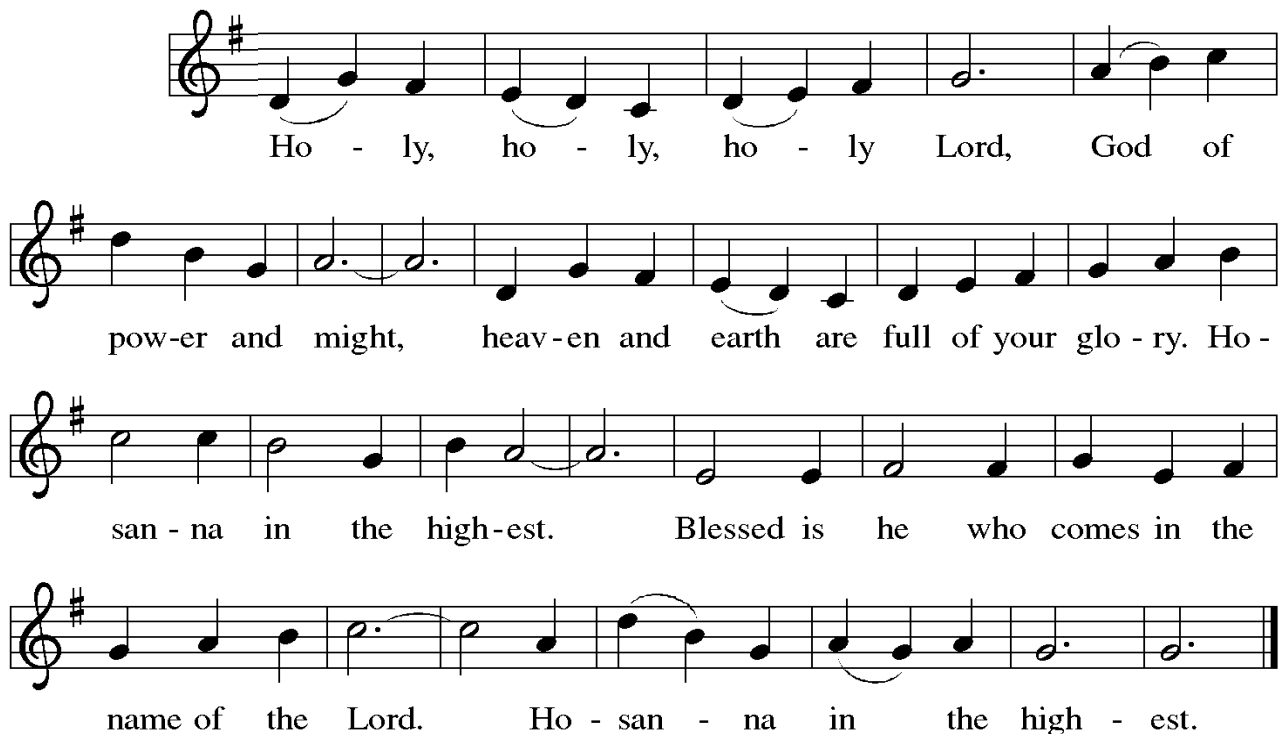
The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

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



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.

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.**

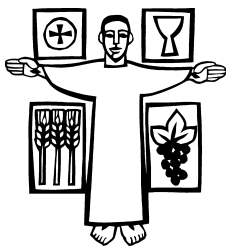
P With Saint Mark and your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
C **Amen**

*The Lord's
Prayer brings
the Great
Thanksgiving to
a conclusion.
Prayed here,
this familiar and
beloved prayer
becomes the
table-prayer of
the congrega-
tion. 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, forming two lines to
receive communion at the altar rail. We return
to our pews by way of the side aisles.



Our Communion Song recalls the Emmaus story (Luke 24:13-35) as well as 1 Cor. 10:16-17.

Communion Song

The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus

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



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

Hymn

We Who Once Were Dead



1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus
2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us
3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him
4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver - flow - ing when he breaks the bread.
strength to fight; death is all a - round us. Je - sus, be our light.
we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.
then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead,
but you rose and, living,
made yourself our bread,
in your goodness giving
life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;
in this meal we meet you.
Be our bread and wine,
Jesus, we entreat you.
This shall be our sign.

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. Gracious God,

C **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.

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

Hymn

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



At the Lamb's high feast we sing, praise to our vic - to - rious king,
Where the pas - chal blood is poured, death's dread an - gel sheathes the sword;
Might - y vic - tim from the sky, hell's fierce powers be - neath you lie;
Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, on - ly sin can this de - stroy;



who has washed us in the tide flow - ing from his wound - ed side.
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
you have con - quered in the fight, you have brought us life and light.
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free new - born souls in you to be.



Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred blood for wine,
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal vic - tim, pas - chal bread;
Now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sa - vior, by whose death we live,



gives his bo - dy for the feast, Christ the Vic - tim, Christ the Priest.
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we Man - na from a - bove.
you have o - pened pa - ra - dise, and your saints in you shall rise.
Spir - it, guide through all our days: Three in One, you name we praise.

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 Is the Glory

Karl Osterland



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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, April 5 <i>The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day</i>	7:30AM 8:30AM 11AM	Worship with Holy Communion Easter Breakfast Festival Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, April 6		Church office closed
	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, April 7		
Wednesday, April 8		
Thursday, April 9		
Friday, April 10	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday, April 11	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, April 12 <i>Second 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		



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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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.

Earth, Earth, Awake—text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.; music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623. Text © 1996 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission, ONE LICENSE, License #A-729546

We Who Once Were Dead—text: Muus Jacobse, tr. composite.; music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf. Text and music © 1967 Gooien Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications. 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.