

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

 $The\ Luther an\ Church-Missouri\ Synod$

The Resurrection of Our Lord

March 31, 2024

"In Nomine Iesu"

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Welcome to St. Paul's and a blessed Easter morning to you!!! This day is one of the most important days of all and is the source of all other holy days within the church year. For, as Paul says, "If Christ had not risen from the dead, our faith is in vain, and we are still in our sins" (1 Cor. 15:17). But thanks be to God that Jesus has risen! Alleluia!

Today churches throughout the world boldly proclaim the fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. That the very One who was sacrificed on the cross for the forgiveness of sins, is the same One who rose to claim victory over sin, death, and the devil. The resurrection is not only foundational for our faith, but it is living proof of God's faithful love to us. And so our service this morning spills over in shouts of joy and praise to Jesus, our ever-living Savior! He is risen! Alleluia!

Christ has risen. Alleluia!

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. St. Paul's congregation practices "fellowship communion." By this we mean that those who commune at our altar confess a unity in faith with us and the fellow members in our Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Please check the questions on the back of the white attendance card. We invite our members and guests from sister congregations to share in this celebration. If you wish to commune at St. Paul's for the first time, please speak with a Pastor or an usher before the service.

All members and guests are asked to fill out the registration card found in your pew rack and hand it to an usher when you leave. Have a blessed day.

Prelude "All Glory, Laud & Honor" Emma Lou Diemer Welcome and Announcements Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bell

Invocation (please stand)

- P In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P This is the day the Lord has made!
- C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
- P People of God, Good Friday was not the end of God's story! Our God is the God of the living! Jesus Christ has risen to save you! He has risen to give you life! The tomb is empty! He has risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P No more will death and sin have any power over us! God's perfect plan of salvation has been accomplished, for Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P And so, if Christ has been raised from the dead, so also will all believers be raised to eternal life, for Jesus Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

(Please turn and face the entrance to the sanctuary and follow the cross to its place in the chancel.)

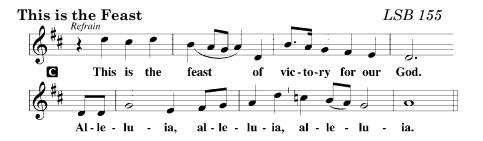
"The Hallelujah Chorus" arr. By George F. Handel St. Paul's Choir

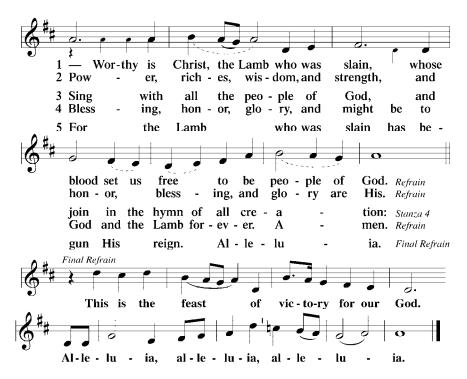
Opening Hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" LSB #457

Confession and Absolution

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

- P We come before You, Lord Most High, because You alone are God and there is none other. But before You, who could stand? In Your presence, none are worthy. In Your presence, our sin is all that we see, and our guilt condemns us. Come to our aid, O Lord. Remove our sin. And grant us the joy of Your salvation.
- C Most Merciful God, my daily life does not reflect that this day is most important, for I sin daily. I forget Your presence in my life. I do not worship You as often or as sincerely as I should. Forgive me, renew me, and help me to walk in Your ways and live according to Your holy will. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- P Just as surely as the sun rose this morning, so has the Son of God risen from the dead and won for you the forgiveness of sins. And by His resurrection, God showed all creation that he received that payment for your sins. And nothing, not even death itself, can separate you from God's love. By the power and the command of Jesus Christ, receive the Good news of God for you today; your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen. Thanks be to God!
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!





Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C Amen.

(be seated)

Choir Anthem "This Glorious Easter Day" Words: Nancy Prise & Don Besig; Music Don Besig

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not 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. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel (please stand)

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 past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6 And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

(be seated)

Children's Message

Hymn "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LSB #465

Sermon

Nicene Creed (please stand)

All I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(be seated)

Presentation of the Offering

Prayer of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

- P Lord, in your mercy, C Hear our prayer.
- P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

Preface (please stand)

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

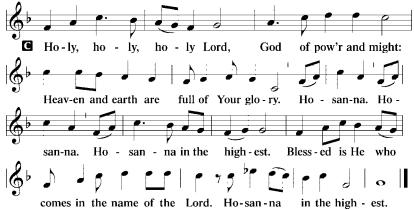
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saving:

Sanctus



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You loved the world so much that You gave your only Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks for His entire obedient life of service, His sacrificial death, and His glorious

resurrection. Gathered in His name, we ask You to bless us as we partake of His body and His blood. Strengthen us thereby to witness to His rising; and grant us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation which come to us in this sacrament. To you, O Father, with the Son and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

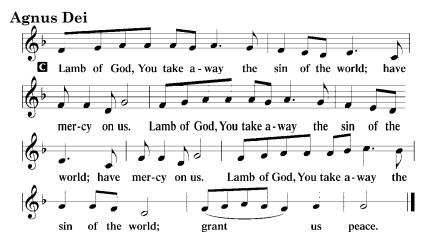
Lord's Prayer

All 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.

Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Distribution (be seated)

(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)

Distribution Hymns

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"	LSB #633
"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"	LSB #477
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"	LSB #475

Post-Communion Thanksgiving (please stand)

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, gracious Lord, we give thanks that You have refreshed us through this foretaste of the feast to come. Grant us strength and guidance that we may be Your messengers of pardon and peace each day until faith gives way to sight at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The stone has been rolled away! Alleluia!
- C The crucified One is risen! Alleluia!
- P Christ has conquered death by the cross!
- C He has left the tomb empty!
- P Christ has risen and will never die again!
- C Death has been swallowed up in victory!
- P The grace of our living Lord and Savior, (+) Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB #461

Silent Prayer

(be seated)

Postlude "Christ the Lord is Risen Today", "The Strife is O'er" Benjamin Culli

"Soli Dei Gloria"

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