

GRACE LUTHERAN



THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

APRIL 4, 2021
9:40 AM & 10:45 AM

THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION

APRIL 4, 2021

9:40 AM & 10:45 AM

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

THE PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“Easter Bells”
(Trinity Bells)

M. Ryan

“Easter Alleluia”
(Brass Quintet)

R. Steinberg

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We begin at the place of the Garden Tomb.

Reader: ⁴¹At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. *(John 19:41-42)*

Leader: ¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. *(Matthew 28:1)*

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

C. Woodsworth, J. Holstein, J. Raney

“Alleluia! Christ Is Risen”
(Grace Chorale, Trinity Bells, Trumpets)

(Please stand and turn to face the cross as it enters)

*Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Let us ever walk with Jesus.

People: **To see the depths of His love.**

Leader: To behold the gift of His forgiveness.

People: **To gaze upon the heights of His grace.**

Leader: To marvel at the magnitude of His mercy.

People: **Today we walk to the empty tomb of victory.**

Leader: We need not be afraid. Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

***THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**

Hymn 457

**Jesus Christ is ris’n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav’nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He’s king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

***THE INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

***THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: On the morning of our Lord’s Resurrection, the women approached the tomb in fear. When an earthquake rumbled and an angel descended, the guards shook with fear. Coming before a Holy God in worship today, we have every reason to be afraid. Just as our gracious

God sent an angel that first Easter morning to say, "Do not be afraid," so the same words are spoken to our hearts this morning. Our gracious God invites us to come into His presence, acknowledge our fears, confess our sins and receive the peace of Christ's Easter victory.

People: **Almighty God, we confess that we have let earthly matters cloud our vision, dim our joy, and close our lips. We have failed to view Your victory and grace through the message of Your Holy Word. Instead, we have relied on our own limited understanding and feared what could happen. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as much as we have loved ourselves. In Your great mercy, forgive us. By Your Holy Spirit, assure us of Your victory over sin, death and the power of the devil on our behalf. Inspire us to share Your resurrection victory and to live our lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Friends in Christ, upon the confession of our sins, God has good news for us. Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death for you and me. He willingly went to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha to pay the price our sins deserved. In Christ's death and resurrection, God forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Therefore, as a servant of the Word, I forgive you all of your sins, in the Name of the Father and the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is the Feast"**

Refrain

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

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

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



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



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

***THE SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: **Almighty God, the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy our Risen Lord and Savior, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Job 19:23-27

²³“Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, ²⁴that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! ²⁵I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; ²⁷I myself will see him with my own eyes - I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”

Lector: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 8:15-18

¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. ¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Lector: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE ANTHEM

“Jesus Is Alive! Alleluia!”
(Grace Chorale)

arr. L. Shackley

*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-11

*Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

*People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped 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.” ¹¹While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

***THE SERMON HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”** *Hymn 465*
(arr. by J. Behnke, with Choir, Brass and Bells, verse 3 sung by choir)

**Now all the vault of heav’n resounds In praise of love that still abounds:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!” Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here: “Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!” Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph; Grant grace sufficient for life’s day
That by our lives we truly say: “Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Adoring praises now we bring And with the heavn’ly blessed sing:
“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!” Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God, All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

THE SERMON “The Empty Tomb of Victory” *Matthew 28:1-11*

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE “I Know that My Redeemer Lives”** *Hymn 461*
(st. 1, 2, 7 & 8)

**I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.**

**He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.**

**He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.**

**He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!**

***OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed, The Second Article—Redemption

(The Apostles' Creed is one of the early faith statements of the Christian Church. Today we profess the Second Article which talks about Jesus. The "What Does This Mean?" was written by Dr. Martin Luther as a tool for fathers to teach their children about Jesus.)

Pastor: What is the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

***THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

Pastor: Let us pray for all people in their various needs and for the Church as it witnesses to our Lord's resurrection.

Pastor: As the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid," we pray for all who awaken this day with fear of pandemic, violence, discrimination, or injustice.

People: Accompany these people, O Father of the Risen Lord, and graciously give them strength and protection until they find days of peace and security.

Pastor: As the angel invited the women, "See the place where they laid Him," we pray for all who work in hospitals, nursing facilities and hospices on this holy day.

People: **O Spirit of the Risen Lord, dry the eyes of those who mourn the death of loved ones, give comforting words to those who minister, perseverance to those who are ill, and protection and skill to health workers in all professions.**

Pastor: As the angel urged the women, “Go tell His disciples,” we pray for all who carry the Good News of Christ’s victory over death to their homes, neighborhoods and to the nations around the world.

People: **O Risen Lord, encourage and bless our brothers and sisters who announce your resurrection in the company of friends and spread its joy through social media, networks and digital connections.**

Pastor: As Job wanted his words written in a book, we pray for all who write laws, all who maintain order in society and everyone in harm’s way at home and abroad.

People: **O Father of the Risen Lord, give wisdom to those who deliberate in houses of government, courage to those who respond to conflict in our communities and protection to men and women in the defense of life around the world.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

***THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

***THE BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who sent His Son to certain death in order to give us life, the Son, who left the tomb empty on this day of His rising, and the Holy Spirit, who graciously enables us to be messengers of the resurrection—be upon you, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***THE RECESSIONAL HYMN “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”**

Hymn 466

(st. 1, 3 & 4)

**Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

refrain

**Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;
Death’s fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!**

**The angel said to them, “Do not fear!
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;
Only the grave cloths are lying there.” Refrain**

**“Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done;
Even the battle with sin is won.” Refrain**

Pastor: Go in Easter peace and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

THE POSTLUDE

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

arr. L. Larson

(Organ & Brass)

PARTICIPANTS

9:40 AM

The Preacher
The Liturgist
The Trumpets
The Trombones
The Horn
The Keyboard Tuba
The Timpani
The Choir Director, Keyboard, Organ
The Sound Technician
The Elder on Duty
The Lectors
The Welcome Team Greeter
At the Welcome Center
The Crucifer
The Acolyte
The Robing Leader
The Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
Vicar Michael Duffy,
Steven Brooks, Fred Knippenberg
Chuck Furr, Mike Mulvaney
Klae Peek
Sarah Duffy
Peter Carrerou
Wynn Bonner
Bruce Wales
Dr. Terry Hostler
Linda Aceto, Fred Aceto
Carl Locke
Tanya Locke
Casey Billman
Max Ladner
Leslie Ladner
Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith, Carl Rod

10:45 AM

The Preacher
The Liturgist
The Trumpets
The Trombones
The Horn
The Keyboard Tuba
The Timpani
The Choir Director, Keyboard, Organ
The Sound Technician
The Elder on Duty
The Lectors
The Greeters
The Crucifer
The Candle Bearers
The Acolytes
The Banner Bearers
The Robing Leader
The Ushers

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Steven Brooks, Fred Knippenberg
Chuck Furr, Mike Mulvaney
Klae Peek
Sarah Duffy
Peter Carrerou
Wynn Bonner
Bruce Wales
Georgia Fisher
Cindy Sensabaugh, Jeff Wittcop
Matthew & Holly Terry, Vera and Lucy
Mina Ullrich
Brayden Carbone, Lillian Witcher
Sylvia Ullrich, Bella Wallace
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CREDITS

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