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Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Day

March 31, 2024 + 10:00 a.m.

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Like the women at the tomb, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. Whether or not you can bear this great truth right now doesn't matter. Christ has given it to you. It is ours. Christ is risen, the grave is empty, love is eternal, and death's defeat is sure. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

Preservice Music and Call to Worship

Welcome

Prelude "Fanfare and Toccata on Easter Hymn"

by Matthew S. Sprinkle

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Liturgy of Light

We stand and turn to face the Easter candle.

The Easter Candle shines as our symbol of the resurrection throughout the Sundays of the Easter season and always at baptisms and funerals. As the candle is lifted three times, the day is proclaimed with the ancient Easter shout as the word of God proclaims the victory of Christ for us all.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

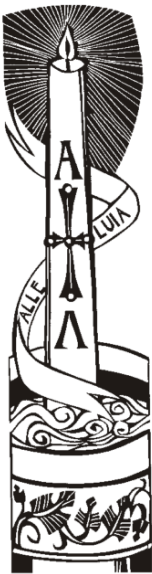
O God, you burn like a refiner's fire within us. Bless this flame and those who keep this Easter celebration so that, burning with desire for life with you, we may be found ready to take part in that festival of light which has no ending, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The flame is brought to the Easter candle.

Throughout the dark forty days of Lent, we put away and buried that joyful word we yearn to hear again.

The Easter candle is lit.



On this Easter morning, the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispels the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The candle is lifted slowly three times.

The light of Christ!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The light of Christ!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The light of Christ!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The light of Christ is with us!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured as Pastor gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,

for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God,
now and forever.

Alleluia! Amen.

Easter Gathering Hymn: “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

ELW No. 365

Easter Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Easter Kyrie

My Lord Jesus, you suffered under Pontius Pilate,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, you were crucified between two criminals,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, you died amidst ridicule and contempt,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, you were buried like all the dead,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, you rose again on the third day,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, you are exalted at God's right hand,
have mercy on us.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter Hymn of Praise: "This Is the Feast"

ELW Page 140

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Bell Choir Anthem: "Thine is the Glory"

Arr. Bill Ingram

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Message

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to the people: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea,

beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (*sung responsively*)



¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW Page 205



Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.

⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Brief silence for reflection.

Hymn of the Day: "Christ is Risen! Alleluia!"

ELW No. 382

Nicene Creed

We confess with one another and to our God,
those things we know to be eternally true.

**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.**

Prayers Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, this church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth, your good creation. The green blade rises, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and unrest, for the innocents who are being held hostage, and for those facing danger and famine in Gaza, Haiti, and Ukraine. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. We pray for all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, especially . . . that they may receive the healing that only you can give. Be with the families of those who died in the Baltimore bridge collapse. May they find comfort and peace in this time of grief. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we remember those who have died. Renew our trust in your promises, that we may live with joyful courage and hope. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
Amen.

Peace

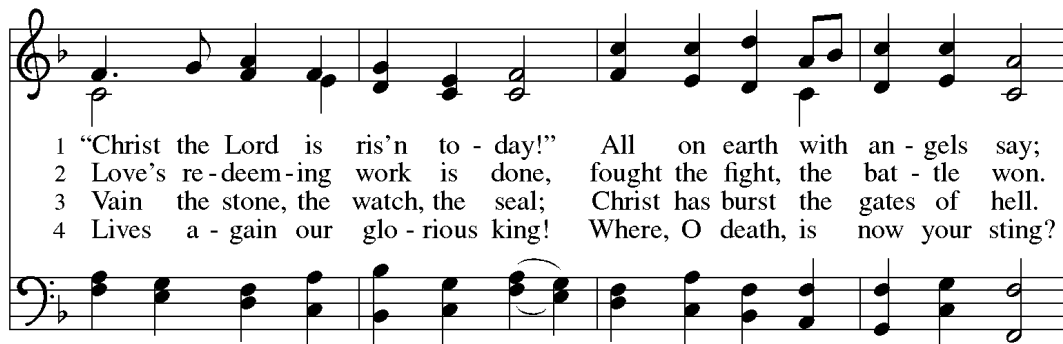
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

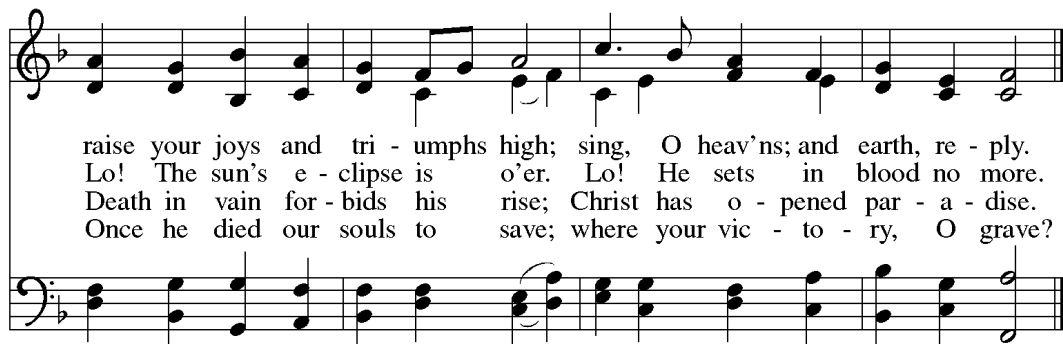
We share the peace of Christ with others.

Offering Song for Easter

ELW No. 373



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" All on earth with an - gels say;
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth, re - ply.
Lo! The sun's e - clipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

Offering Prayer

Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Page 107

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.

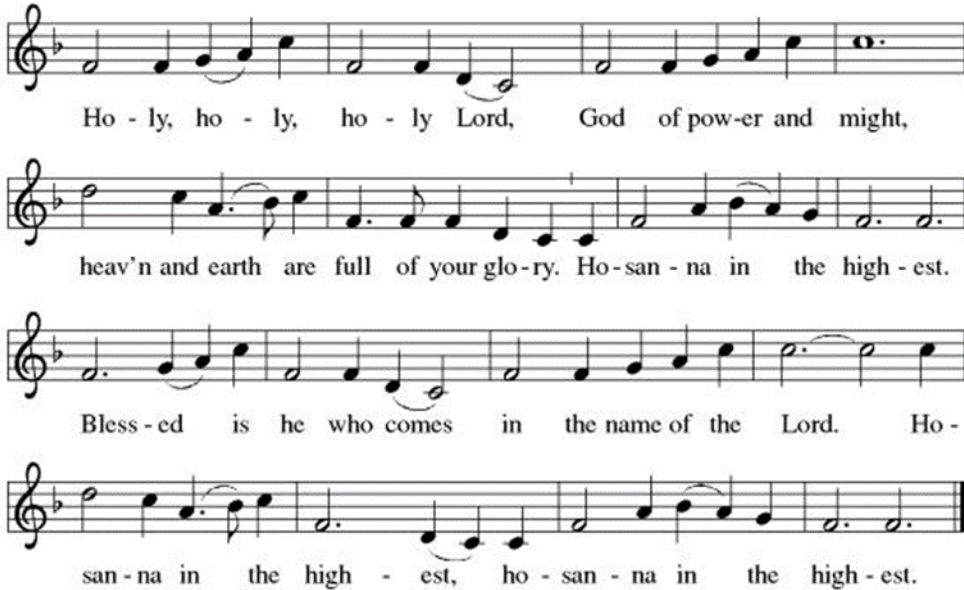
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Page 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you,
O God of Love for your creation.
Though we do not deserve it,
your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness
endures from age to age.
You so loved the world
that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
may not perish but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

Our Lord's Words of Institution.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover
from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us.

Breathe new life into us.

Fill us with hope, peace,
and love for others.

Come Holy Spirit.

Together with the saints of every age and time,
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.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

ELW Page 208

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Lamb of God

ELW Page 208



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Songs of the Lord's Table:

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done"

ELW No. 619

ELW No. 366



Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

ELW No. 367

Dismissal

Together, we go into the world —
sharing God's word,
serving others,
growing in Faith,
practicing stewardship as a way of life.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude “Improvisation on Victory”

by Matthew S. Sprinkle

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