

St. John's Lutheran Church

April 20, 2025~ Easter Sunday

~ The Festival of The Resurrection of Jesus Christ ~

Good Morning!

We feel blessed that you're here. We want you to feel comfortable in worship. Participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable. To help out, everything for our worship is projected on the screens up front and printed here in the service folder.

You and your kids are welcome

We enjoy having you and your kids in worship. And yes, that means that we don't even mind if kids want to be heard in worship in their own special way. Special Children's messages are offered on non-communion Sunday's. If they are comfortable, they are invited to come to the front of the church for a special message. If you do need a quiet place to calm a child, a nursery room is available immediately to the left as you exit the sanctuary. There are also changing stations in each bathroom.

Fill out a Connection Card

We'd love to know you were here and help you take the next step. There are Connection Cards inserted in the worship folders, or they can be completed online. Text "Connect" to 651-401-1400, scan the QR code, or visit www.StJohnsLutheran.com/connection-card to complete the card online.



The Real Meaning of Easter:

The truth we celebrate today has the highest importance for all of our lives. God says the meaning of Easter is simply this:

- + Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead is God's proof to us that he has accepted Jesus' life and death as payment for our sins. We are freely forgiven because of Jesus.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection gives us new purpose as we live to glorify God.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection assures us that God will one day raise us from the dead to live before him in a perfect world.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection is God's proof that the Christian faith is the true faith that he wants all people to know and believe.

Silent prayer before worship:

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever. Amen.



Easter Worship

Our Call to Worship

We begin our Easter worship in the name of the Living God: The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit - **Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, today we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Let us draw near to him in worship and praise, in humble sincerity and bold confidence. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Opening Easter Praise: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

CW 438

Please stand for the final verse



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!

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

Because Jesus lives and in the end will stand, we can withstand all that causes *doubt*. God raised Jesus from the dead just as he had promised. The resurrection demonstrates that every claim Jesus made about himself is true and every promise Jesus has made to us will be kept.
This is the gospel we have received. On this gospel we take our stand. By this gospel we are saved.

Because Jesus lives and in the end will stand, we can withstand all that causes *guilt*. Were we responsible for paying for our sins, our work would be endless and pointless. But when Jesus had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at God's right hand to wait for his enemies to be made his footstool. He has made perfect forever those who belong to him.
Christ Jesus who died-more than that, who was raised to life-is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Because Jesus lives and in the end will stand, we can withstand all that causes *despair*. Though life is full of trouble and sorrow, nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. We are more than conquerors through him who loved us. In him, all things must serve for our good.
God has placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

Because Jesus lives and in the end will stand, we can withstand all that causes *grief*. Though we mourn when death takes those we love, Jesus' resurrection guarantees that those who fall asleep in Christ will rise. In our own flesh and with our own eyes we will live to see God.
Christ must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

Hymn of Praise: He's Risen, He's Risen

CW 445 sts. 1, 5



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Prayer

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Devotion

God's Word

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.
The LORD has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say,
 “Surely this is our God;
 we trusted in him, and he saved us.
 This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
 let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

Musical Response: He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

CW 461

He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled is
 God, my Lord; the gates of heav'n are o - pen.
 My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, and Sa - tan's ar - rows
 bro - ken lie, de - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.
 O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing glo - rious,
 life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

Reading

1 Corinthians 15:51–57

⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“Where, O death, is your victory?
 Where, O death, is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Musical Response: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

CW 471 sts. 1-2

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there -

praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has

tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he

an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all

here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"

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

The Easter Gospel

Luke 24:1-12

¹On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷"The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again."⁸ Then they remembered his words.

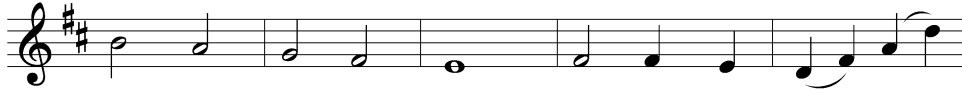
⁹When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹²Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CW 441



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 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.
- 8 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!

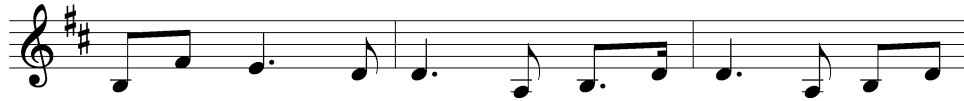
Our Easter Meditation based on 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Our Response: In Christ Alone

CW 510



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right - eous -
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of
And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Prayer of the Church

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy this day, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Imprint the message of victory on our hearts and implant it in our minds. Through the good news of your resurrection renew our hope and revive our faith. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of someone they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain with your promise to dry every tear. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and Sacraments to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Our Thank-Offering

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” - Colossians 3:17

Our offerings are both an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute. If you'd like to leave an offering, you may place it in the designated location in the back of the sanctuary or use one of the electronic means listed below.

Ways to Give Electronically

Choose one of 3 Simple, Safe Options for Offering Thanks



- Text “give” to 651-401-1400
- Go to www.StJohnsLutheran.com/give
- Scan the QR code

Blessing

Now may our glorious Father, who by his power raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, give you the Spirit of wisdom to know the hope to which he has called you. And may he preserve you in body and soul until your own resurrection on the day of Christ Jesus.

Amen!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Closing Hymn: Christ Our Hope In Life and Death

EG line

1. What is our
(What truth can)
(Un - to the)

hope in life and death? Christ a - lone, Christ a - lone. What is our
2. calm the trou-bled soul? God is good, God is good. Where is His
3. grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives." And what re -

on - ly con - fi - dence? That our souls to Him be - long. Who holds our
grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-deem-er's blood. Who holds our
ward will hea-ven bring? E - ver - last-ing life with Him. There we will

days with - in His hand? What comes a - part from His com - mand? And what will
faith when fears a - rise? Who stands a - bove the stor-my trial? Who sends the
rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be de - stroyed, and we will

keep us to the end? The love of Christ in which we stand.
waves that bring us nigh un - to the shore, the rock of Christ?
feast in end - less joy, when Christ is ours for - ev - er - more!

Oh sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hopes spring e - ter - nal; oh sing hal - le -

lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

Take the Next Step

If this is your first time with us, we're so glad that you took a big step and came to worship. What's your next step?

Come back next week

Connecting with God at worship is a great way to spend time during your weekend.

Try "God & Me"

God & Me is the place to learn more about God's word in your life, for both long time-members and beginners who want to learn more about God's love, the Bible, and St. John's. A new session of classes will be starting soon. Connect with Pastor and/or check the box on your Connection Card if you'd like to know more.

Join a Grow Group

Grow Groups are small groups that get together in person or online to learn about God's Word. It's a safe, comfortable atmosphere to discuss the way God's love intersects our daily lives. If you are interested in joining or starting a Grow Group or Bible Study, mark the box on your Connection Card and we will reach out to you.

Service Opportunities

There are multiple areas to volunteer each Sunday to make worship happen well for those in person and online: Guest Services & Hospitality Team, Tech Team, & Worship Prep Team.

Are you interested in serving? Mark the box on your Connection Card today!

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Visit us online:



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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – WELS