

EASTER DAY: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Celebrate the Resurrection

April 12, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Christ is risen! He is Risen, indeed! "And," say the apostles, "so are you!" Though we with all believers who have gone before us still await the great day of the resurrection of all at the return of the Lord, His resurrection seals our faith and confidence today that because He lives, "you also will live" (John 14:19). Our celebration this day is reflected every Sunday throughout the year. Let us celebrate with the women who first visited the empty tomb in that strange combination of joy and fear, which is faith in the power of resurrection. We rely on the power of God "in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 1:13).

† PREPARATION †

EASTER VIDEO INTRODUCTION

CONGREGATION – *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

LSB 457



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 ye 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!

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

People: Death is swallowed up in victory!

Pastor: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

People: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to

God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." *Romans 6:8-11*

People: It was our sin that caused Christ to die to ransom us from the death of sin. By the power of Your death and resurrection, Lord Jesus, forgive us and raise us to new life.

Pastor: If Christ had not been raised from the dead, we would still be dead in our trespasses and sins, but Christ rose from the grave, and death no longer has dominion over Him! God did this in accordance with the Scriptures to forgive our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I announce the forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN - *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

LSB 469 sts. 1-2, 4, 6



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
Lo! Our Sun's e - clipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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 the day of our Lord's resurrection, 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.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING – Exodus 14:10-15:1

¹⁰ As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

¹³ Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. ¹⁶ Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷ I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in

after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. ¹⁸ The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen.”

¹⁹ Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel’s army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, ²⁰ coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²² and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

²³ The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. ²⁴ During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. ²⁵ He jammed^[a] the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, “Let’s get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.”

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.” ²⁷ Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward^[b] it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. ²⁸ The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

²⁹ But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ³⁰ That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. ³¹ And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed

against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

"I will sing to the LORD,
for he is highly exalted.
Both horse and driver
he has hurled into the sea.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance^[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas,^[b] and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve 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 to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Special Message from the Bethany Youth Puppets

ALLELUIA and VERSE *2 Timothy 1:10b*

Pastor: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! Christ Jesus abolished death

Pastor: and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

People: Alleluia!

WE PREPARE FOR THE EASTER GOSPEL (Melody: LSB 633, vs. 7)

Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL – *John 20:1-18*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent

over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. ¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. ¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). ¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

RESPONSE TO THE EASTER GOSPEL (Melody: LSB 633, vs. 8)

Father, who the crown shall give,

Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days,
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

HYMN OF THE DAY - *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing*

LSB 475



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:
can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

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MESSAGE "Why Are You Crying?"

EASTER CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, Who sent His Son as my Savior to rise on Easter morning.

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, died on Good Friday, rose again on Easter morning to free me from the curse of sin and the sting of death and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit Who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Easter, and by Whose continuous work in my heart I am ever led to be steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of my resurrected Lord. Amen.

HYMN "This Easter (2020) Celebration"

This Easter Celebration

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

Aurelia

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

1. This Eas - ter ce - le - bra - tion is not like ones we've known.
2. No gath - ered choirs are sing - ing; no ban - ners lead the way.
3. Our joy won't come from wor - ship that's in a crowd - ed room
4. In all the grief and suf - fer - ing, may we re - mem - ber well:
5. We thank you that on Eas - ter, your church is blessed to be

We pray in i - so - la - tion, we sing the hymns a - lone.
O God of love and prom - ise, where's joy this Eas - ter Day?
but from the news of wom - en who saw the emp - ty tomb.
Christ suf - fered cru - ci - fix - ion and faced the powers of hell.
a scat - tered, faith - ful bo - dy that's do - ing mi - ni - stry.

We're dis-tant from our neigh - bors— from wor - ship lead - ers, too.
 With sanc - tu - a - ries emp - ty, may homes be - come the place
 Our joy comes from di - sci - ples who ran with haste to see—
 Each Eas - ter bears the pro - mise: Christ rose that glo - rious day!
 In homes and in the pla - ces of help and heal - ing, too,

No flo - wers grace the chan - cel to set a fes - tive mood.
 we pon - der re - sur - rec - tion and ce - le - brate your grace.
 who heard that Christ is ris - en, and then, by grace, be - lieved.
 Now no - thing in cre - a - tion can keep your love a - way.
 we live the Eas - ter mes - sage by glad - ly serv - ing you.

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OUR PRAYERS

Leader: O God of life and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 according to Your abundant grace.

**People: You have brought us to a new and living hope by the
 resurrection of Jesus from the dead.**

Leader: You have transformed the night of doubt and sorrow into
 the new and eternal day of joy and gladness.

**People: You have brought life and immortality to light by the
 glad tidings that Christ is risen. For this, O Lord, we
 give You thanks.**

Leader: You have delivered Your Son, Who died for our sins, from
 the grip of death and raised Him by Your power.

People: That which You sowed in dishonor and weakness, You raised in power and glory.

Leader: O God, we praise You that through Him You removed death's sting for us.

People: You have brought us victory over the grave.

Leader: Fill our hearts with the joy of the resurrection.

People: Grant to Your church the power of the resurrected Christ.

Leader: Help us to show forth Your praises.

People: Bless our homes with the comfort and hope of Easter.

Leader: Send the conquering banner of Christ's victory into all the world.

People: Grant that many more nations may join the hosts of heaven in songs of triumph.

Leader: In the promise of Easter take away from us all fear of death.

People: Let the radiant beams of Easter's light shine into the depths of our souls.

Leader: Renew us in the Spirit of Him, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

People: Speak peace to our souls and maintain our faith in him Who promises resurrection and life.

Leader: Visit with Your divine presence those who are lonely.

(Here special intercessions, silent or spoken, may be made.)

Give us Your strength and comfort in these days of Covid19 and thank you for all those who lead and who are on the front lines of care for people throughout the world.

People: We ask all this in the name of our risen Lord.

All: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER - *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**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.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God: Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit be in you and go with you always.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

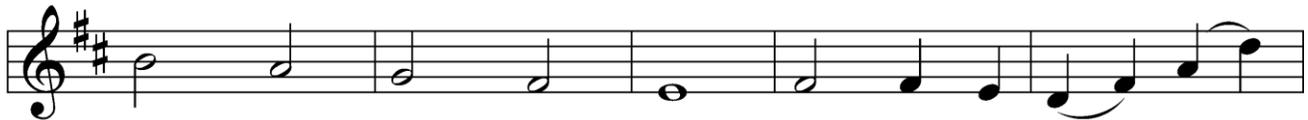
Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Risen Lord!

People: Thanks be to God and we will!

HYMN "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461



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!