

*Christ  
is risen  
Halleluia*







+ Easter Sunday +

**April 4, 2021**

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### **AS WE GATHER**

Though Christmas may be our favorite, Paul reminds us that Easter is of “first importance.” If Christ had not arisen, our hope would be still locked in the tomb. Because He is risen, just as He said, we have hope of our own resurrection from the dead and look forward to the life everlasting, which death cannot touch. We come here today not simply to remember an event but to rejoice in the future made possible for us because of what happened. Before the world we confess that Jesus’ resurrection is not a hope but a fact witnessed by more than five hundred and on that fact God has built a future for us—one we anticipate now even as we wait to see it fulfilled.

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### **REGARDING COMMUNION**

*After his resurrection, the crucified but now-living Jesus appeared to his disciples and said to Thomas (who had his doubts that Jesus could really be alive again): ‘Touch my pierced hands and feel my wounded side; stop doubting and believe.’*

*We come to the Lord’s Table with our own doubts and worries, fears and sorrows, often lingering on uncertainty and the realities we think are beyond change. Our Lord points us to his unchanging yet life-changing reality—he has died, he has risen, he will come again. His Holy Supper is the place where we encounter his saving, risen, and healing Body and Blood ... as he said: ‘Those who feed on my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.’ **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

**Liturgical Color:**

**White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church**

**Prelude** ..... *“Open the Gates of the Temple” (Mrs. Joseph E. Knap)*  
*(Quoting a Theme from Handel’s Messiah)*

*Please rise and turn to face the processional cross at the back of the Nave.*

**Processional Gospel** ..... **Mark 16:1-8**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.

And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Processional Hymn** ..... *“Jesus Christ is Risen Today” #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 endured,	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!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Divine Service, Setting One

# Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Confession and Absolution.....page 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

# Service of the Word

## Entrance Hymn .... "I Know That My Redeemer Lives", #461 (1, 2, 5, 8)



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to  
8 He lives, all glo - ry to His name! He lives, my



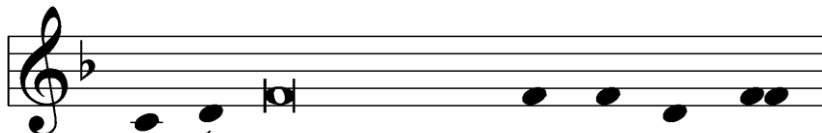
this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my  
Je - sus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.  
sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Tune and text: Public domain

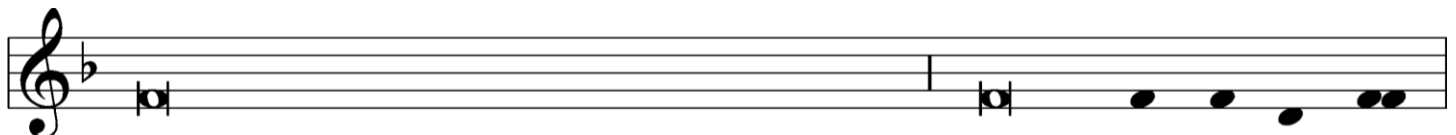
## Kyrie.....pages 152-153



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



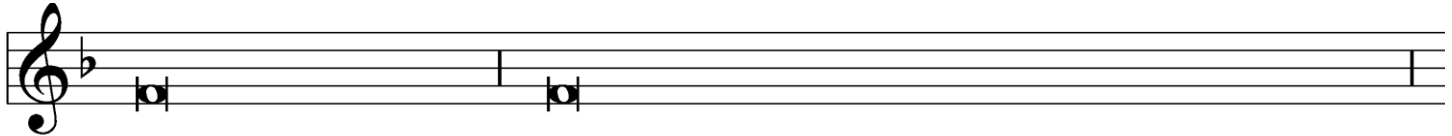
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



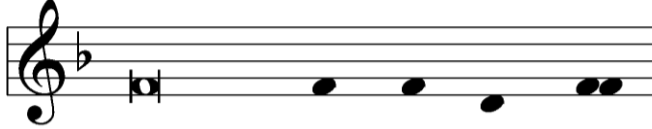
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



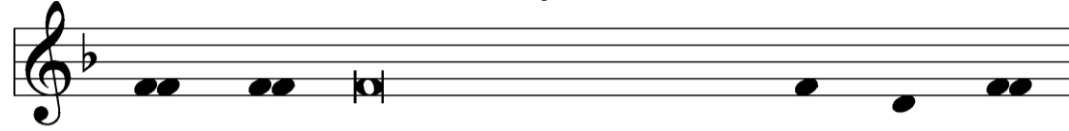
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## This is the Feast .....page 155



**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-tory for our God.  
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**Salutation** .....page 156

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day** ..... (*spoken in unison*)

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. Amen.

*Sit*  
**Old Testament Reading** ..... **Isaiah 25:6-9**

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.  
 And he will swallow up on this mountain







sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for-  
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be  
 ru - sa-lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch-



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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*Sit*  
**Sermon**....."Looking for the Living Jesus"

*Stand*  
**Nicene Creed**

**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.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Offering

*Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the entrance.*

*“Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:15-16)*


**Offertory** .....pages 159-160



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



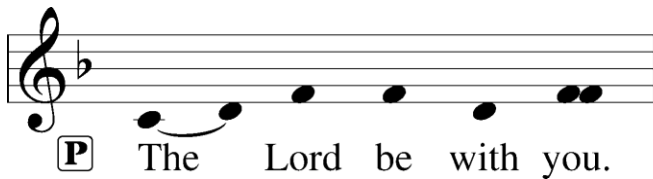
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



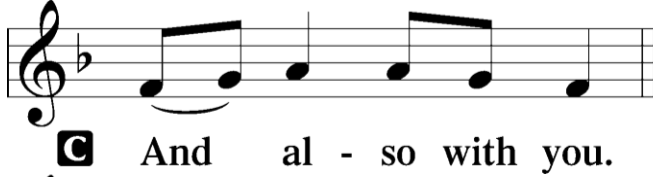
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

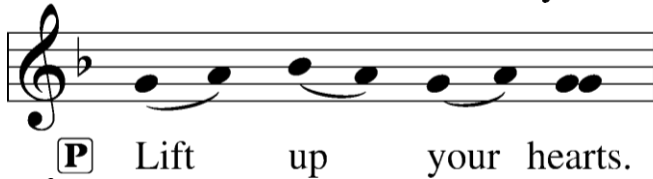
Communion Liturgy .....pages 160-162



**P** The Lord be with you.



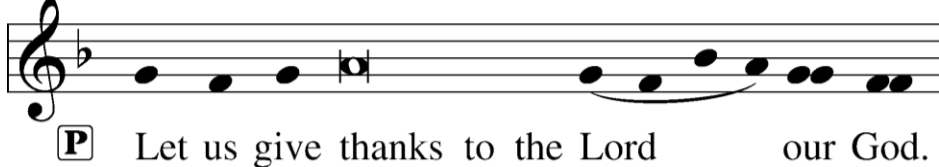
**C** And al - so with you.



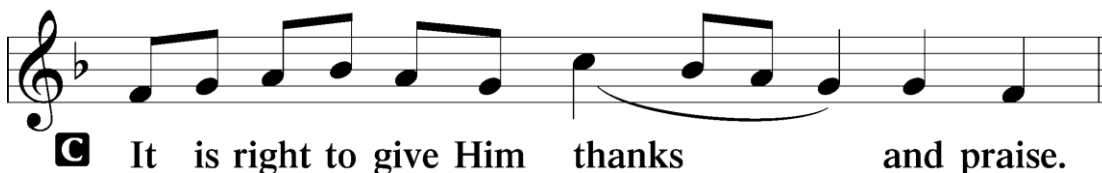
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



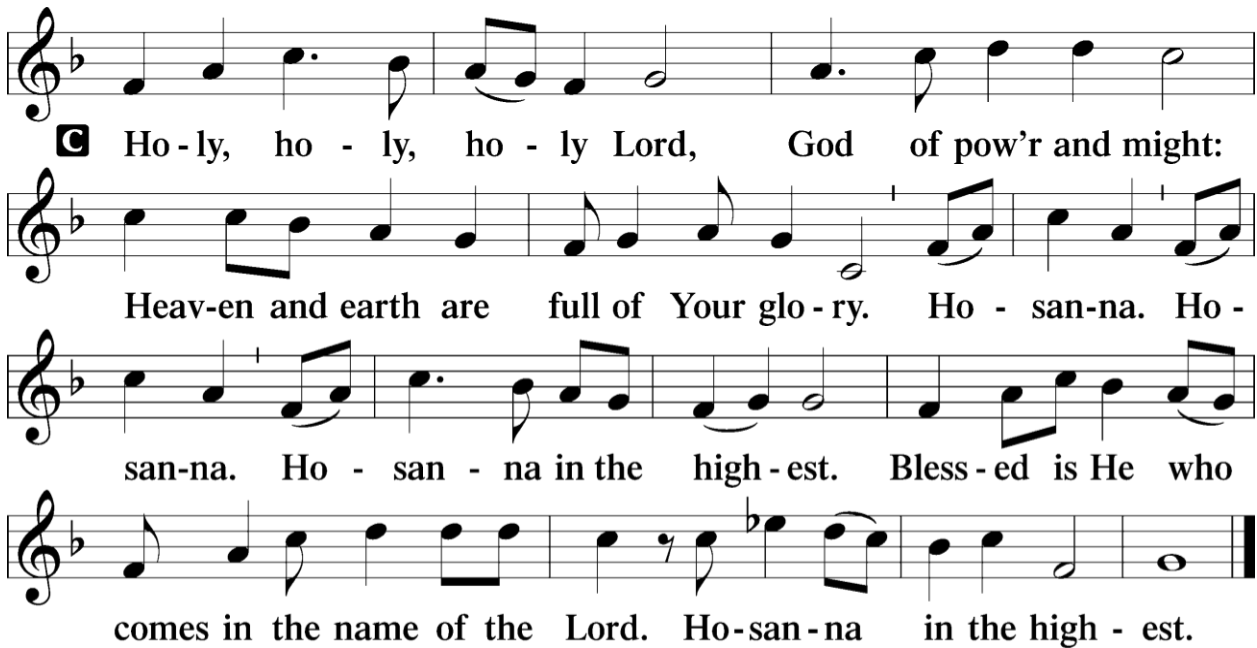
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and beneficial 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 Passover 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 singing:

**Sanctus**.....*page 161*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



# Lord's Prayer

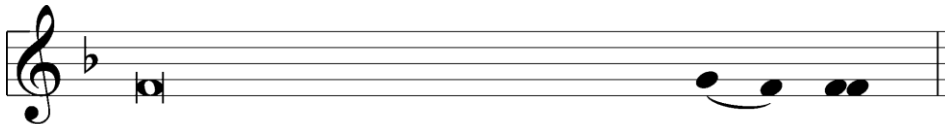
**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** 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.

**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."

## Pax Domini .....page 163



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei.....page 163



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).*

## Communion Distribution

*Distribution of the Lord's gifts in Holy Communion is in standing format with Pastor and the Elder near the chancel steps. You will be released by the usher to head forward, maintaining physical distance between each person or family unit. Pastor will drop the wafer into your hands, so please cup them together and hold them chest-level. Individual plastic cups only are being used, so if you're not taking the non-alcoholic wine from the center, please make sure to take from the outer circle first until all of those are gone before reaching for the next level in. A basket to the left of the table is available for you to place your used cup inside.*

**Communion Hymns** ..... Paula Easterwood, Lorraine Miller

*Stand*

**Post Communion Canticle** ..... "Thank the Lord" page 164

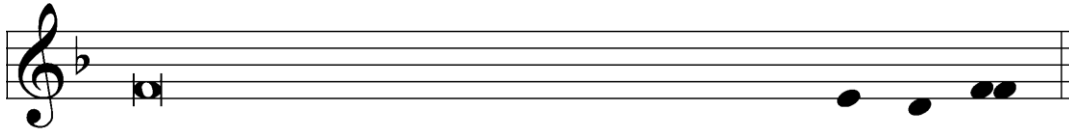
Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.  
 He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy  
 with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

**Post Communion Collect** ..... page 166

**P** Let us pray.

**C** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Benediction**..... page 166



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



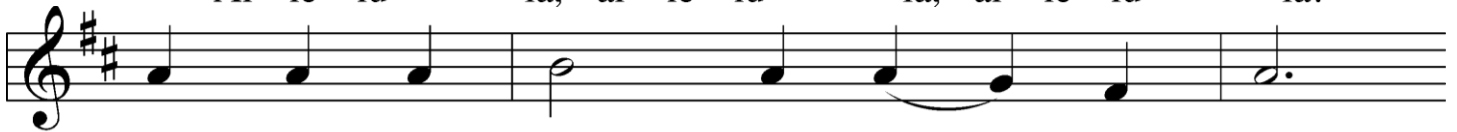
**C** A - men.

**Sending Hymn**..... "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done" #464 (1, 3, 5)

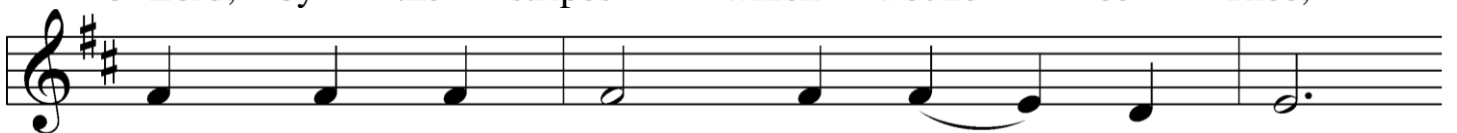
*Refrain*



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



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;  
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,  
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;  
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.  
From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

*The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.*



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

# Dismissal ..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

**P** Grow in Christ,

**C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

# Postlude ..... “Concerto Opus 7”, No. 4, William Felton

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## Next week's readings:

**First: Acts 4:32-35; Epistle: I John 1:1-2:2; Gospel: John 20:19-31**

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**Attendance Last Saturday: 30**

**Attendance Last Sunday: 49**

**Total Offering: \$3,110.00**

**Missions: \$20.00**

**Home Use: \$2,830.00**

**Benevolences: \$260.00**

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## Serving us today:

Elders..... Jack Easterwood, Caleb Thomas (Early)

..... Willie Crespo, Jeremy VanWey (Late)

Musicians ..... Paula Easterwood, Lorraine Miller

Altar Committee..... Sheree Moody (Chair), SueAnn Carter,

Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer

Flower Committee ..... Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

## This Week's Schedule

Monday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:00 a.m. Moms and Tots

Tuesday (Pastor's off 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

Thursday 1:00 p.m. Card Group

7:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study—"With God in the Garden"

Friday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

Saturday 10:00 a.m. Elders' Meeting

5:30 p.m. Worship--"Mission in Motion" Weekend

6:30 p.m. Virtual District Youth Gathering Here

Sunday 9:15 a.m. Bible Study and Jr. and Sr. Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship--"Mission in Motion" Weekend

1:00 p.m. Youth Catechesis



## Prayers

**For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision**—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization & rehabilitation: Don Apprill (Cindy Schnell's dad), Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Scott Compton (Bob & Barbara's son), Carie (Julie Crespo's friend), Crystal McDaniel (Diane McComas's daughter) Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Laney Etters, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Sharon Hochsprung, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker (Pr. Jesse Kueker's son—Trinity, Clinton), Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Kathy Marshall, Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Pat Spanton, Bryan Tebbenkamp, Lynne Trimble (Kaye Fair's sister). *We remember as well all who are dealing with COVID—19, especially the healthcare providers who are working to prevent, stem the spread, and treat those who are ill!*

**For Pregnant Mothers**, especially Brittany and Joe Brown and Bridgette and Jonathan Sharp as they await childbirth this month and this summer, respectively. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

**For Seminarian** Jonathan Sharp (and his wife Bridgette) as he continues his studies and prepares to receive his vicarage assignment at the end of April.

**For Military Members**—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Ethan Hillsman, Chance Hillsman and Logan LeBaige.

**For Our Confirmands** who will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday—the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday: Zach Brown, Gabby Fatka, Azriel Hartwig, Nate Stewart and Gracyn VanWey. The Lord continue to guide them with his Holy Spirit!

**Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care**—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

## Worship Services (Masks required at all services)

**Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m.** You can also watch them live on Facebook or YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at [blchurch.com](http://blchurch.com).

**Saturday Services are at 5:30 p.m.** Holy Communion is observed on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> weekends of the month.

## Opportunities to Serve

**Bethlehem's Spring Mission Festival** will be celebrated on the weekend of **April 10-11** under the theme "Mission in Motion." You will hear about the various forms of outreach and service that happen on a regular and occasional basis in our congregation. There are many opportunities to serve, and we hope that you learn about one to support or get involved with—if not already doing so!

**SHINE! A Community Day of Service is planned for the morning of Saturday, April 17 here at Bethlehem (10 a.m. to noon, to be exact)!** Each congregation in the Missouri District is encouraged to do something good in and for its community in late April to let our light shine so that others may see and give glory to our heavenly Father here on earth with us (as Jesus said, Matthew 5:16). We are planning a **Spring Giveaway** of items from Amazon's product philanthropy program, as well as other items accessed through our membership in the Jeremiah 29:11 warehouse, highlighting our community garden, and having a splendid spring morning of giving, receiving, and sharing. Everyone can help in some way, so **let the church office know if you'd like to be a part of this fun endeavor or make use of the signup sheet on one of the bulletin boards.** It will take some doing setting up earlier that morning and taking down in the afternoon, and *every volunteer should be able to get a free and bright t-shirt!*

**Crop Walk**—This year's Crop Walk will be virtual. They are encouraging small groups or families to walk together and post pictures on social media. Groups and individuals can register and give online at <https://events.CROPHungerWalk.org>. Packets can be dropped off on April 24 between 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**Bethlehem's Community Garden** began its overhaul last fall and winter with the building of raised beds for this year's growing season, and recently got a dump-truck load of topsoil. This is an exciting new venture to which everyone is welcome to participate, and spring planting will be coming up soon! Pick up one of the new pamphlets to learn more, talk to Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley if you'd like to know more, or take a stroll to the far end of our backyard to see for yourself. Keep your eyes and ears open for ways to be involved!

## Faith Discussion and Bible Study

**"Reading Romans" Study on Sunday Mornings!** We will start chapter 11 on **April 11**, so please join us in the conference room **from 9:15-10:10 a.m.** as we cover a lot of good ground yet together.

**"With God in the Garden" Study on Thursday Evenings!** Gardening is more than growing flowers, fruits, and vegetables. It is a spiritual experience that allows us to

reflect on our lives, sins, and biblical truths. Martin Luther wrote, God is entirely and personally present in the wilderness, in the garden, and in the field. This Zoom Bible Study will begin **Thursday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m.** We will be using “With God in the Garden” by Christianity Today International. If you are interested in finding God in your garden, please contact Rebecca or Cindy.

**Easter Season/Spring Bible Study & Discussion Groups**—Pr. Joel plans to offer the study *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* (by Kent Bureson and Beth Hoeltke at Concordia Seminary, with whom he’s worked on projects) during the Easter season, as well as restarting the study and discussion *Reforesting Faith (What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God and His Love for Us)* this spring. These are great opportunities to expand your grasp and scope to what is biblical regarding life in all its fullness. Keep a lookout for days and times based on the responses he received!

### Youth

**Sunday Youth Bible Study**—Jeremy VanWey has started a new one that is exploring C.S. Lewis’s classic on the wily ways of evil, *The Screwtape Letters*. Make sure to make it, and spread the word to others so that a good group can work through it together!

**District Virtual Youth Gathering—Take Heart!** Participate in this special Youth Gathering at Bethlehem on **Saturday, April 10. Food, snacks and drinks will be provided starting at 6:30 p.m. The event goes live at 7:00 p.m.**, with live Emcees leading participants through speaker sessions with Rev. Dr. Gerard Bolling, reflection discussions, music from Bread of Stone, and **will wrap** the evening with a live Q&A session **around 10:00 p.m.** There is no cost to participate. We will meet in the church basement and take part in the event on the big screen. **Bring a neighbor or a friend or two.**

### Fellowship

**Exercise Class** will start back up after Easter. Class starts at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

**Card Group** will start back up after Easter. They will meet on **Thursday at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to join in for some games, coffee and fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

## Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate on the altar with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "*Simply Giving*".

## Elders

**Jeff Harris** (last name begins A-E) 660-624-1571, [elvis100669@yahoo.com](mailto:elvis100669@yahoo.com)

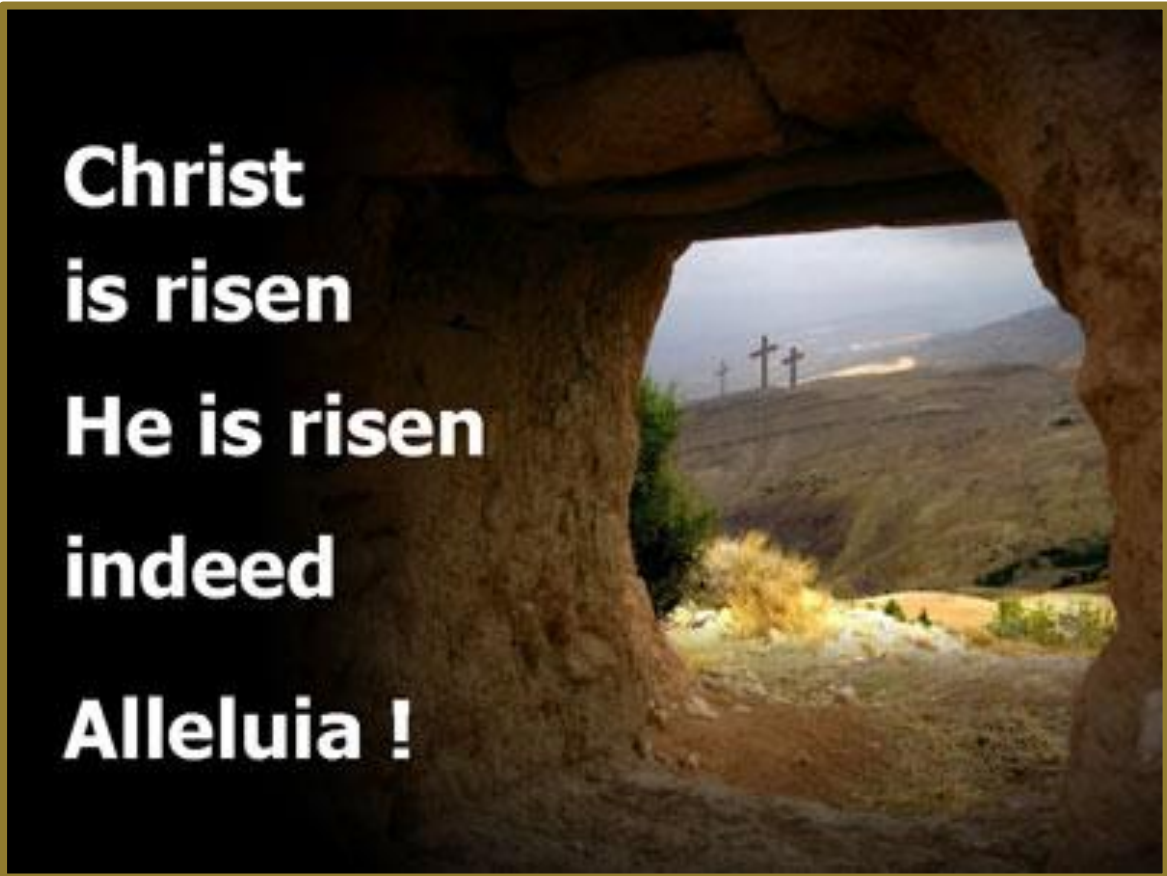
**Willie Crespo** (last name begins F-H) 660-679-8121, [willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com](mailto:willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com)

**Jack Easterwood** (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, [easter.egg2380@gmail.com](mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com)

**Caleb Thomas** (last name begins Mc-R) 660-441-2010, [calebthomas50@gmail.com](mailto:calebthomas50@gmail.com)

**Jeremy VanWey** (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, [jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com)

**Thank you to Pastor, Elders, Office Staff, Musicians, Sound and Video Crew, and many other groups who have put in their time and talents to make this a joyous Easter Season.**

A photograph of a stone archway leading to a landscape with crosses on a hill. The archway is made of rough-hewn stone and frames a view of a dry, hilly landscape. In the distance, three crosses are visible on a hillside under a cloudy sky. The foreground is a dirt path leading through the archway.

**Christ  
is risen  
He is risen  
indeed  
Alleluia !**



+ + +  
KIDS IN THE  
DIVINE SERVICE  
+ + +

## If all Jesus had to do was die, then why is Easter such a big deal?

Easter is a very important day. Easter is the day that we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

After Jesus was crucified, His disciples were very sad. It seemed like their God and friend had been defeated and killed. They had forgotten that Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead. They must have thought Mary Magdelene was crazy when she told them that Jesus had appeared to her at the tomb where He was buried. But her story was true! Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead!

Later, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times to prove it. And that's just what He did, *He proved it!* By His resurrection, He proved to the world that He was victorious over death and paid for our sins completely. Now, the first words you hear in church on Easter Sunday are: "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



**Parents:** Help your children to recognize the different places in our worship service which speak of Jesus' resurrection (the Creed is a good example). Point out some of the symbols in the church that might aid in their understanding of the resurrection. Remind them that we join in His resurrection through our Baptism!



## **EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS**

***Ralph and MaryAnn Hein***  
**To the Glory of God**

***The Schumaker Family***  
**In Memory of:** Bob Pragman (family friend)

***Brittany Brown***  
**In Memory of:** Ronald Rohner (her dad)

***Galen and Eunice Cobb***  
**In Memory of:** Velma and Gerald Cobb (Galen's parents)  
**In Memory of:** Hubert & Ruby Brunkhorst (Eunice's parents)

***Cody Droege***  
**In memory of:** Andy Droege (her husband)

***Amy Martin***  
**To the Glory of God**

***Denniss and Pat Spanton***  
**In Memory of:** friends that passed in 2020  
Duane and Arlys Lambrechts, Warren Spanton, Christine Tucholke and Ben Walford

***Duane and Becky Limback***  
**In Memory of:** Their grandparents, parents, and deceased siblings

***Sue Cottrill***  
**In Memory of:** John A. Cottrill (her husband)  
**In Memory of:** Lawrence and Marie McMullin (Sue's parents)  
Irvin and Virginia Cottrill (in-laws), Irvin Lee Cottrill (brother-in-law)

***Melvin Theroff***  
**In Memory of:** Pris Callison (his wife)

***Carol Kurz***  
**To the Glory of God**  
Special love to her granddaughter Fini

***Scott, Penny & Abby Humphrey***  
**In Honor of:** Denise Farley

***Jack and Paula Easterwood***  
**In Honor of:** Dorothy Peck (Paula's mom)  
**In Memory of:** Jeannie Faye Easterwood (Jack's mom)  
**In Memory of:** Clifford Peck (Paula's dad)

***Larry and Karen Haase***  
**In Memory of:** Our Parents

# EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

***Maryanna Savery***  
**To the Glory of God**

***Peggy Hoyer***  
**In Memory of:** James Peterson (her dad)

***Rick and Susie Mills***  
**In Memory of:** Bud and Mildred Wheeler (Susie's parents)  
**In Memory of:** Dick and Sadie Mills (Rick's parents)

***Roy and Judy Schache***  
**In Memory of:** Loth and Schache families

***Darlene Laubenstein***  
**To the Glory of God**

***Charles and Esther Keseman***  
**In Honor of:** All those who serve us, Pastor, Musicians, Office Manager,  
Custodial Workers and others who help out in the office and church

***Rev. Ricky and Janice Bertels***  
**In Memory of:** Eugene Bertels-Ricky's Father

***Willie and Julie Crespo***  
**In Honor of:** Carie Dickey (lifelong friend)  
**In Memory of:** Grandpa George Kee

***Ben and Cindy Smith***  
**In Memory of:** Cheryl Middaugh-Ben's mother, Frank Smith-Ben's brother  
**In Memory of:** Hubert and Francis Carte, Paul Easley (Cindy's grandparents & father)

***Sheree Moody***  
**In Memory of:** Millie Jean Moody (Aunt)  
**In Memory of:** Betty Lynn Jones (Michael Jones' wife)

***SueAnn Carter***  
**In Memory of:** Mike Carter, her husband & other deceased family members

***Alan and Lorraine Miller***  
**In Memory of:** Robert and Joanne Miller (Alan's parents)  
**In Memory of:** Darrell and Alice and Curtiss Carlson (Lorraine's parents and brother)

Thank you to the flower committee (Penny Humphrey and Sheree Moody) and all of the people that purchased lilies this year to beautify our church for Christ's resurrection. Also thank you to Ken Hoemann, SueAnn Carter, Bonnie Rich and Denniss and Pat Spanton for the beautiful Easter Cross.

## Contact Information

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093**

### **Our Mission**

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

### **Our Vision**

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



#### **Rev. Joel R. Kurz**

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: [pastor@blchurch.com](mailto:pastor@blchurch.com)

Website: [www.blchurch.com](http://www.blchurch.com) Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

#### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

[officemanager@blchurch.com](mailto:officemanager@blchurch.com)

#### **Congregational Life Facilitator:**

Rebecca Stewart

MTW: 8am-2pm

Thursday by appointment

[clf@blchurch.com](mailto:clf@blchurch.com)

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 3pm–6pm

Thursday by

appointment

[financial@blchurch.com](mailto:financial@blchurch.com)

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for the viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.