

ALLELUIA!

CHRIST IS RISEN!



CHRIST IS RISEN!

ALLELUIA!



+ Easter Sunday +

April 17, 2022

AS WE GATHER

“He is risen!”—the Church shouts with confidence—“He is risen indeed!” The high point of our Christian life is celebrated this morning as we gather with all of God’s children to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As today’s Gospel from Luke 24 will show us, confusion and fear give way to confident faith when the women who went to the tomb realize Jesus is alive and then share this good news with the other disciples. Through those disciples, this message has reached us also! Just as God had promised through His prophets of old, the Lord Himself will restore creation and bring harmony to all life—beginning with Jesus’ resurrection and continuing until the Last Day, when Jesus returns in glory, destroys death itself, and raises us up to new lives in His eternal kingdom. With confidence in God’s promises, we say: “I know that my Redeemer lives!” What comfort, what hope, what joy this sweet sentence gives!

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 Rich Vanderburgh (early), Jerrode Marsh (late)

All will be asked to rise and turn to face the processional cross at the back of the Nave.

Processional Gospel **Luke 24:1-12**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth 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!

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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 . . .

C Amen.

Service of the Word

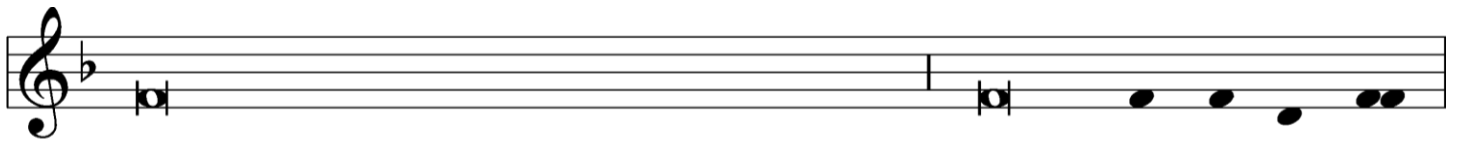
Entrance Hymn *"He is Arisen! Glorious Word" #488*

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!

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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.



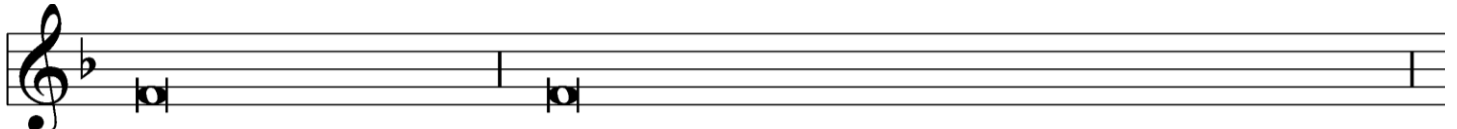
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



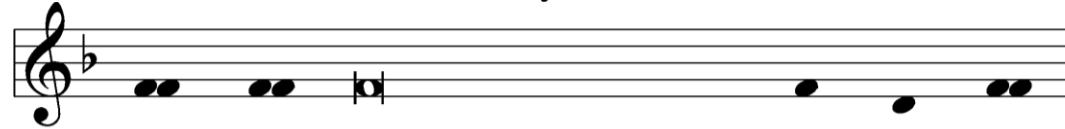
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry 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 al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Collect of the Day *(spoken in unison)*

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; 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 65:17-25**

“Behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and be glad in my people;
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping
and the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,
or an old man who does not fill out his days,
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,
and their descendants with them.
Before they call I will answer;

while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
and dust shall be the serpent's food.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain,"
says the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 15:9-26

For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not 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. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" #474



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
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!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
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..... "Easter Again!"

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.

Dedication of the New Chancel Candles *(in memory of Aileen Luehrman)*

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

Worshippers 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)

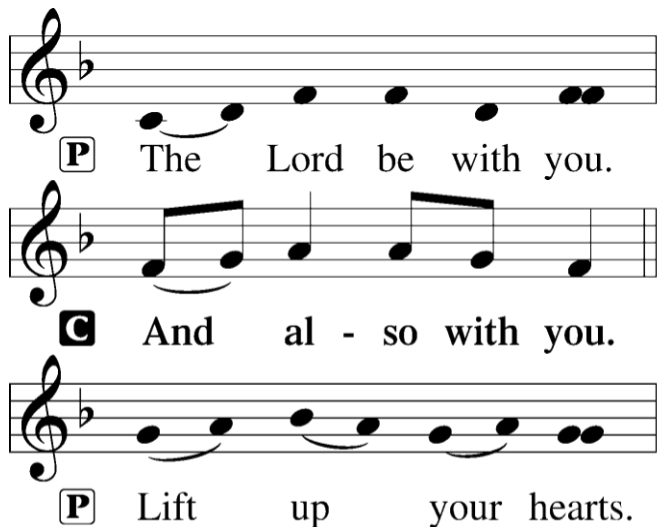
Offertorypages 159-160



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 Liturgypage 160



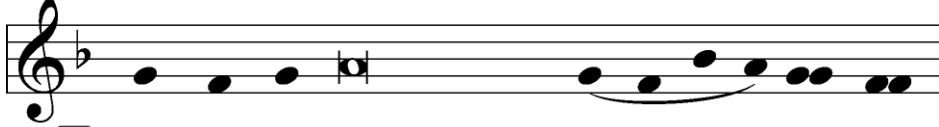
P The Lord be with you.

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 salutary . . . 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 . . . one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

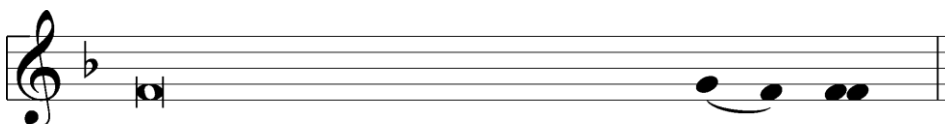
Prayer of Thanksgiving.....*page 161*

The Words of Our Lord.....*page 162*

Proclamation of Christ.....*page 162*

Lord's Prayer.....*page 162-163*

Pax Domini.....*page 163*



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

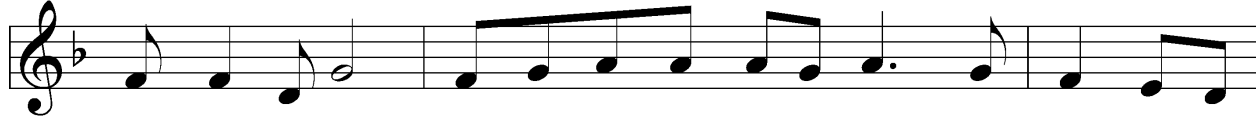


C A - men.

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.

Communion Distribution

(For standing, continuous distribution: Approach the pastor for the bread/Body, then step to the left for the wine/Blood—by common or individual cup—and then return to your seat ready to go and make known the joy and peace of Jesus' presence.)

Communion Hymns "The Day of Resurrection" #478



- 1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
- 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
- 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
- △ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
 The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
 Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
 All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
 And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
 His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
 For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
 And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

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"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" #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 He 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!

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"Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom" #481



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
 2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
 3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through -



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
 God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
 out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
 Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
 Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be -



clipped by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
 sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
 gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

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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 - joice 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..... "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" #466 (4-5)

4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;
He has a - ris - en this world to save.
Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.

Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;

Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Rich Vanderburgh (early), Jerrode Marsh (late)

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The Men's Club will be handing out *hot cross buns* today in lieu of their traditional Easter breakfast—like they did for the first time last year. The *hot cross buns* were made by Warrensburg's own Green Truck Bakery. Make sure to read about the religious history and significance of these rolls, and to thank the men for making this treat possible!

Next week's readings:

First: Acts 5:12-32; Epistle: Revelation 1:4-18; Gospel: John 20:19-31

Attendance Last Saturday: 36

Total Offering: \$8,198.33

Home Use: \$7,688.33

Attendance Last Sunday: 101

Missions: \$450.00

Benevolences: \$60.00

Serving us today:

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

Ricky Bertels, Willie Crespo, Alan Miller (Late)

Musicians Rich Vanderburgh (Early), Jerrode Marsh (Late)

Sheri Mattson, Lorraine Miller, Gary Moege (late)

Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer,

Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith, Rebecca Stewart

Flower Committee Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

This Week's Schedule

Monday

Pastor and Cindy gone

9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:00 a.m. Moms and Tots

6:30 p.m. Scouts

Tuesday

Pastor gone

6:00 p.m. Mission Board Meeting

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Thursday

9:30 a.m. Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School

11:30 a.m. Merry Widows/Friends Luncheon

1:00 p.m. Games and Cards Group

5:30 p.m. Fellowship Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. Zoom-Lent Bible Study

Friday

9:30 a.m. Exercise Group

Saturday

8:00 a.m. Mary Martha Guild Zone Rally-Marshall

9:30 a.m. Garden/Greenspace Work & Shine! Event Preparation

5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday

8:00 a.m. The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9

9:00 a.m. Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at
www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)

9:15 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. Thrivent Planning Meeting

Absences

Cindy will be out of the office on Monday, April 18. Pr. Joel will be out of the office on Monday, April 18 and Tuesday April 19.

Thank You

Beryl and Shawn would like to thank Pastor Joel and the members of the congregation who helped us with the Church Clean-Up this past weekend. Blessings to you all!

Wilma Gertz would like to thank everyone for their visits, cards and prayers and wishes everyone a glorious Easter. She also really enjoys the CD's that are made and delivered each week.

Prayers

Of Rejoicing for the Baptism of siblings Kersten, Trevor, and Connor Thomas during last night's Easter Vigil, as well as for infant Caroline Renée Hulshizer and her family in preparation for her Baptism on Sunday the 24th. May the Lord indeed keep them in his ongoing love, mercy, and grace!

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Melvin Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Barbara Compton, Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, and Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Samantha & Nathan Schultz (Mark and Felisa Brown's daughter & son-in-law) and Jeremiah & Colleen Murrell. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation during the months ahead!

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, Gabe Crespo, Luke Lockard (the Limback's grandson) and Chance Hillsman.

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

Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at blchurch.com.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School for PreK-12th grade begins at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity for children and youth to grow in knowledge of Scripture and in love toward the Lord and our neighbors, as Jesus said matters most!

Vacation Bible School is fast approaching and we need your help! If you can fill one of the following roles during the week of **June 5-9 (5:30-8:00 p.m.)**, please contact Ellen Pederson. Consider these ways to assist with VBS:

Thrivent Action Grants—To help us provide dinner each night for our VBS participants and volunteers, we are hoping that Thrivent members could once again request two action grants to cover the cost of meal supplies.

Registration (1-2 people)—Welcome participants and hand out name tags; volunteer for just one night or all five; this role would be from 5:00-5:45 each evening.

Story Reader—Read and discuss the evening's Bible story with each group of children; volunteer for just one night or all five.

Science station—perform a small (scripted) science demonstration for each group of children and discuss what it illustrates about God; volunteer for just one night or all five.

Music (2 people)—Teach the children several songs and actions; lead the children in these songs during nightly opening and closing as well as the final program Thursday evening.

Team Leaders (3-4 people)—Stay with a group of children as they transition from one station to the next; help at each station as needed (i.e. handing out art supplies, etc.).

Video Series

Life Together as Synod—Our denomination (the LCMS) has put out a new video series exploring what it means to be a “synod”—a people who walk together in faith. Ask yourself what it means for you to be a part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and then give these a view or your own, if you want. These videos are accompanied by a free, downloadable talk sheet with suggestions for studying Scripture and questions for further discussion. Learn more and view the “Life Together” video series at resources.lcms.org/life-together-as-synod-video-series.

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Sunday Bible Study is working through the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* (by Concordia Seminary faculty) and discussing our way through Scripture and personal experiences so that we can all be strengthened in believing and living through Christ's own life, death, and resurrection. Plan to join us **in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.! No Bible study on Easter Sunday!**

Wednesday Bible Study is currently exploring the short book of the prophet Nahum. Join us **in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** as we see what we can learn for him long ago that meets us in the here and now.

Thursday "Lent—Pentecost Zoom Bible Study is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. We are discussing God's forgiving love for us in Christ Jesus. This Bible Study focuses on the scripture readings each Sunday. If you would like to join, please contact Cindy or Rebecca if you are interested in joining this class.

Evangelizing Easter Workshop—Mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to learn how to better "go and tell" (as the angel declared on Easter morning) in the places of our everyday life. We'll still be in the Easter season and will be exploring the *Spiritual Conversation Curve* for sharing the faith.

Opportunities to Help & Serve

The LCMS has called for "Help for Ukraine" through a recently established webpage (lcms.org/Ukraine). The site provides regular updates to inform the prayers of the church as well as links that provide additional information on how to help our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Spring Garden Work & SHINE! Event Planning! Plan on being here **this Saturday, April 23, from 9:30-noon** to help get necessary garden and greenspace work done, plus more solid plans in motion before our SHINE! Event on the 30th (see below)! We will hopefully be having UCM students from MO Volunteers here helping us out too. *Also, if you have time this week and next and can help get extra garden-related work done before that big day, let Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel know and we'll plug you in with a task!* (Several of us from Bethlehem will be at the Earth Day event at the UCM Farm that afternoon to promote our **Grow Green—Glow & Glean** the following week in our district-provided green shirts.)

Bethlehem's 2022 SHINE! Community Outreach Event Will Be Happening Here on Saturday, April 30, from 10-noon! *Grow Green—Glow & Glean* will focus on stewardship living which is rooted in the Lord's Good Earth and known by growth, harvest, and generous sharing. There will be workshops, hands-on planting, *free seeds and free raffles*, information to glean, plus an appearance by the "Green

Lantern.” This is our unique congregational effort, as part of the district-wide outreach initiative, so the more members who help—including in the planning and preparation—the better! *We’ll need help setting up and taking down that day, plus during the event, so please write your name down and the hours you can help on the sign-up sheet by either entrance ... or let the church office know.* Let’s make this a great endeavor of sharing the light and goodness of our sustaining Lord!

The Warrensburg Food Center is in need of the following items: canned vegetables, beans, diced tomatoes, hamburger helper, coffee (regular instant-no pods), dry cereal (regular boxes), tuna and chicken pouches, Vienna sausages, spam, Poptarts, juice pouches, Gatorade type drinks with electrolytes, stick deodorant, chapstick, small body lotions, medium size cloth or vinyl bags with sturdy handles, large backpacks (not book bags), dish soap and toilet paper. (No mac and cheese or dry beans). Please throw in a few items when you are doing your grocery shopping to help the Food Center. You can place them in the basket by the bulletin board at the north entrance of the building for delivery to the Food Center.

Fellowship

Merry Widows and Friends will meet on **Thursday, April 21 at 11:30 a.m.** in the fellowship hall. Bring your own lunch, invite a friend and join us for some fellowship. Dessert will be provided.

Thrivent will be meeting on **Sunday, April 24 after service** to plan the rest of the year’s events.

Exercise Class is being held at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

The Games and Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

The Quilting Group meets on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of the month from **9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.** (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

This & That

Altar Rail Change—After some suggestions from parishioners, discussion by the Elders and Mary-Martha Guild, it was decided to remove the wooden cup holders from the altar rail. Since we use baskets for the empty cups when doing standing Communion distribution, we’ll be continuing that method from here on out

regardless of whether the mode is kneeling or standing.

Grief Share Classes (via Zoom) will be starting again through the First Baptist Church on **Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.** **In-person classes will start on Wednesday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m.** Classes will run for 13 weeks. You can register by calling the church or by going to their website at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

Easter Hymn Festival on April 24 at 3:00 p.m. at the chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus in St Louis. This concert features the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale, the Concordia Seminary String Ensemble and the Clarion Bass. To watch this live you can go to csl.edu/live.

The Warrensburg Community Center is blooming with art from Mid-Missouri Artists who are displaying results from their 2021 Art Challenge, "Flowers." Several BLC members have art in the show which can be viewed through **April 26**.

Benefit Concert—Save the date for **Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day), at 4:00 p.m.** Bethlehem will be holding a benefit concert for the women and children refugees in Central Europe. The concert will focus on prayer and peace. Participants will include members of the Saint Paul Singing Saints and members of the Sedalia Symphony. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Joel or Jerrode Marsh.

Country Kitchen Cards are available! You can get 10 buy-one, get-one meal **FREE** coupons for just **\$10.00**. All proceeds go towards helping the youth group. See a youth member, or you can stop by the office and purchase one.

Ongoing thanks to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support!

Offerings

Simply Giving is the online program for donations and offerings. The website has changed a bit recently. If you need assistance, please let the office know and we will provide you with the steps to start it or help you change where you place your funds.

2022 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com

Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, rick1janice2@gmail.com

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

Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.com

Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com



**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!"

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

MaryAnn Hein

In Memory of: Earl and Ruth Cary (MaryAnn's parents)

Cody Droege

In Memory of: Andy Droege (her husband)

Amy Martin

To the Glory of God

SueAnn Carter

In Memory of: My deceased family members

Larry and Karen Haase

In Memory of: Norman & Frances Hink

Darlene Laubenstein

To the Glory of God

Esther Keseman

In Memory of: family members who have passed before us

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)

Alan and Lorraine Miller

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

Lloyd and Charlene McCarter

In Honor of: Leora Baack, (Charlene's mother)
In Memory of: Luther and Ada McCarter, (Lloyd's parents),
Clarence Baack-Charlene's father

Rohn and Georgia Luker

To the Glory of God

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

Rick and Susie Mills

In Memory of: Our Parents

Schumaker Family

In Memory of: Bob Pragman and Ken Bauer

Tim and Cindy Schnell

In Memory of: Our Parents

Ben and Cindy Smith

In Memory of: Our deceased family members

Duane and Rebecca Limback

In Memory of: Our parents, grandparents and Duane's brothers (David, William, Robert), Rebecca's sister (Paulette Dickhoff)

Roy and Jude Schache

In Memory of: The Schache and Loth Families

Melvin Theroff

In Memory of: Pris Callison (his wife)

Peggy Hoyer

In Memory of: Kimberly Carter (her granddaughter)

Bill and Pat Brasel

In Memory of: Clay Epperson (our grandson)

Thank you to the flower committee and all of the people that purchased lilies this year to beautify our church for Christ's resurrection.

Also thanks to all of the members who helped with the Easter cross this year.

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

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Rebecca Stewart

Tuesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-5pm

clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, 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.