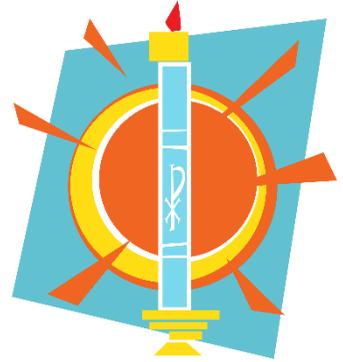


EASTER SUNRISE

The Light of Christ

April 4, 2021



AS WE GATHER

The words used at the beginning of Evening Prayer are most appropriate for reflecting the theme of this early morning Easter service: “Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.” We are Easter people this day—people of the resurrection who are walking in the light of Christ. Joining our voices in praise at this, the earliest service of our Christian Year, is truly fitting. With the words of Evening Prayer, we pray to our victorious Lord: “Let Your light scatter the darkness and illumine Your Church.” The day of resurrection is just beginning! Let us keep the feast with sincerity and truth!

HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” *LSB 477*

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead.

People: **God the Father has crowned Him.**

Pastor: He has made Him ruler over the works of His hands.

People: **He has put everything under His feet.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Merciful and loving Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by our sinful actions and our failure to do the good You desire. We pray You to grant to the penitent absolution and peace, that freed from the burden of guilt they enjoy the gift of a clear conscience.

People: Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor: 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. As we delight in God's forgiving love, let us be reconciled to one another and share the peace of the Lord.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” *LSB 467 vv. 1-3, 6*

SERMON: “Not in the tomb”

Mark 16:1-8

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

☩ SACRAMENT ☩

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: 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 His 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.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **And also with you**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” *LSB 463*
“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” *LSB 461*

EASTER CELEBRATION SEQUENCE

Pastor: Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer your thankful praises!
People: **The Lamb the sheep has ransomed: Christ, who only is
 sinless, reconciling sinners to the Father.**

Men: *Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous: The
 Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.*

HYMN **“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”** *LSB 466 v.1*

Pastor: “Speak, Mary, declaring what you saw when wayfaring.”

Women: *“The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus’
resurrection;
Bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting.
My Lord, my hope, is arisen; to Galilee He goes before you.”*

HYMN **“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”** *LSB 466 v.2*

Pastor: Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.
People: **Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning! Amen. Alleluia.**

HYMN **“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”** *LSB 466 v.3*

EASTER AFFIRMATION *Romans 6:5, 9*

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die
again;
People: **death no longer has dominion over Him.**

Pastor: For if we have been united with Him in a death like His,
People: **we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like
His.**

HYMN **“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”** *LSB 466 v.4-5*

VERSICLES LSB, p. 286

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;
People: let my cry come to You.

Pastor: In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
People: for You answer me.

Pastor: Hide Your face from my sins,
People: and blot out all my iniquities.

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,
People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Pastor: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
People: my lips will praise You.

Pastor: For You have been my help,
People: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

Pastor: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
People: unite my heart to fear Your name.

Pastor: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
People: and I will glorify Your name forever.

Pastor: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
People: May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Pastor: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
People: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Pastor: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
People: listen to my plea for grace.

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe. In love You have given Your Son, Jesus Christ, into death for us and raised Him to life again; so raise us from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit. Grant that the light of Christ shine in our hearts now and forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

HYMN “He’s Risen, He’s Risen” *LSB 480*

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