

HE IS RISEN!!!

***EASTER FESTIVAL SERVICES***  
***MARCH 31, 2024***

**PREPARATION**

**Opening Sentences**

*Psalm 118:24*

**P** The light of Christ!

**C** Thanks be to God!

**P** All of you choirs of angels and saints in heaven before us:

**C** Rejoice at Christ's victory over death.

**P** Now, heaven and earth, even all of creation:

**C** Rejoice, for the eternal darkness has been defeated.

**P** Rejoice, brothers and sisters in Christ both here and around the world!

**C** Our Lord has kept all God's promises!

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

## 478 The Day of Resurrection

1 The day of resurrection!

Earth, tell it out abroad,

The passover of gladness,

The passover of God.

From death to life eternal,

From sin's dominion free,

Our Christ has brought us over

With hymns of victory.

2 Let hearts be purged of evil

That we may see aright

The Lord in rays eternal

Of resurrection light

And, list'ning to His accents,

May hear, so calm and plain,

His own "All hail!" and, hearing,

May raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heav'ns be joyful,  
Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the world keep triumph  
And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen,  
Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen,  
Our joy that has no end!

*(stand)*

4 All praise to God the Father,  
All praise to God the Son,  
All praise to God the Spirit,  
Eternal Three in One!  
Let all the ransomed number  
Fall down before the throne  
And honor, pow'r, and glory  
Ascribe to God alone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** We cannot enter God's presence as we are. Our sinful condition falls short of the glory of God. Let us therefore give voice to those sins, confessing our faults and failures to one another and to God Himself.

**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** Rejoice and be glad! God has not merely overlooked your faults; He has not missed your failures; and He knows the frailty of the human condition. Rather, He became one of us as Jesus, who died to pay for every sin or yours and your sinfulness itself. Jesus not only paid the penalty; on this day our heavenly Father proclaimed to all the world that He accepted the payment. Your sins are forgiven indeed!

In the stead and by the command of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## 457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
  
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
  
- 3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

*(stand)*

- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-88  
Text: Public domain

## Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us.

**G** 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;

**P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 25:6–9*

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>And he will swallow up on this mountain  
the covering that is cast over all peoples,  
the veil that is spread over all nations.

<sup>8</sup>He will swallow up death forever;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,

and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.  
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual** *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

**P** Christ has risen from the dead.

**C** God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

**P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

**C** He has put all things under His feet.

**Epistle** *1 Corinthians 15:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

<sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still

alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*10:30 Service Only – Special Music* – Greg, Kristen, and Becca Bich  
"A Gaelic Easter Celebration" —arr. Drennan

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 16:1–8*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup>And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and



Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”  
⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

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

## Children's Sermon

### 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.  
Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.  
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,  
Even from death, dispelling its gloom. *Refrain*

*ref*Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;  
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!  
Jesus is living, alleluia!

2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
Until its strength by God was dispersed.  
He who gives life did death undergo;  
And in its conquest His might did show. *Refrain*

3 The angel said to them, “Do not fear!  
You look for Jesus who is not here.  
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;  
Only the grave cloths are lying there.” *Refrain*

4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done;  
Even the battle with sin is won.” *Refrain*

5 Christ has arisen; He sets us free;  
Alleluia, to Him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. *Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010

Text: © 1977 Howard S. Olson. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004860

## Sermon

## 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** Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. He lives to intercede for us before the Father. With confidence, let us present to God our petitions for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus.

For the holy Christian Church throughout the world, that it may be found without fault at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all believers in the Lord Jesus that their lives may testify to His resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, that a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those in positions of public trust in all levels of government, that they may serve justice and promote the welfare and dignity of every person, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who suffer because of poverty, persecution, or sickness, [*especially . . .*], and all others we name in our hearts [*silence*], that they may know the healing power of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who grieve because of the death of their loved ones, [*especially . . .*], that through the sure hope of the resurrection of Christ, God would wipe away the tears from their eyes and give them comfort, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth God's glory in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all who come this day to the feast of our Lord's body and blood, that their faith be strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Sharing of the Peace and Offering

### Offertory

*LSB 159*

**C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

**I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

### Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also 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.

### Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary 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 Paschal 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 saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 195*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not spare Your only Son, but gave Him into death that we might have life. Though we cannot understand Your love or comprehend eternity, we lift our voices in thanksgiving and pray You to strengthen us through this Sacrament to serve as Your witnesses.
- C** Give us opportunity, use our gifts, and move us by Your Holy Spirit to tell the news of Jesus' victory over death each day that You give us for loving service.
- P** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

**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.”

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** 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

**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.**

### **Pax Domini**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### **Agnus Dei**

*LSB 198*

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.  
Amen.

## Distribution Hymns

### 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His pierced side.  
Alleluia!
  
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine  
Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast—  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.  
Alleluia!
  
- 3 Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Alleluia!
  
- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we manna from above.  
Alleluia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

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!

*(stand)*

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!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## 486 If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death

1 If Christ had not been raised from death

Our faith would be in vain,

Our preaching but a waste of breath,

Our sin and guilt remain.

But now the Lord is ris'n indeed;

He rules in earth and heav'n:

His Gospel meets a world of need—

In Christ we are forgiv'n.

2 If Christ still lay within the tomb

Then death would be the end,

And we should face our final doom

With neither guide nor friend.

But now the Savior is raised up,

So when a Christian dies

We mourn, yet look to God in hope—

In Christ the saints arise!

3 If Christ had not been truly raised  
His Church would live a lie;  
His name should nevermore be praised,  
His words deserve to die.  
But now our great Redeemer lives;  
Through Him we are restored;  
His Word endures, His Church revives  
In Christ, our risen Lord.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938

Text: © 1985 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004860

## 547 The Lamb

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,  
O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes  
God will provide the Lamb of price! *Refrain*

*ref*Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,  
One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb,  
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. *Refrain*

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,  
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will  
On our behalf the Law to fill. *Refrain*

4 He sighs, He dies,  
He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives,  
He gives me His own righteousness. *Refrain*

5 He rose, He rose,  
My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong  
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. *Refrain*

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953

Text: © 1987 and 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004860

## **This Is the Feast**

*LSB 155*

**☐ This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of  
God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, that You have refreshed us through this gift of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Strengthen us by this Sacrament to announce this gracious Good News so that many may join us at the Lamb's high feast; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Benediction

**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** Amen.

## 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;  
He lives eternally to save;  
He lives all-glorious in the sky;  
He lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with His love;  
He lives to plead for me above;  
He lives my hungry soul to feed;  
He lives to help in time of need.



4 He lives to grant me rich supply;  
He lives to guide me with His eye;  
He lives to comfort me when faint;  
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

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!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.

Text: Public domain

## Dismissal

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**P** Go in peace as you serve our living Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV<sup>®</sup> Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version<sup>®</sup>), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.