

Easter Festival Service

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

April 4, 2021



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

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BELLS

The Resurrection of our Lord

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she left and ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," she told them, "and we don't know where they put him!" So Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first. Bending over, he saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was following him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there. The cloth that had been on Jesus' head was not lying with the linen cloths, but was folded up in a separate place by itself. Then the other disciple, who arrived at the tomb first, also entered. He saw and believed. (They still did not yet understand the Scripture that he must rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to their homes. But Mary stood outside facing the tomb, weeping. As she wept, she bent over, looking into the tomb. She saw two angels in white clothes sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and one at the feet. They asked her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She told them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have laid him." After she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you carried him off, tell me where you laid him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and replied in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means, "Teacher"). Jesus told her, "Do not continue to cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father—to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" She also told them the things he said to her.

HYMN*I Know that My Redeemer Lives* | **CW 152 v 1-4**

All 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!

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

Men 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.

All 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.

SALUTATIONPastor/**Congregation**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

The LORD Almighty will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations!

He will swallow up death forever. Alleluia!

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces!

He will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. Alleluia!

Your dead will live; their bodies will rise.

You who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Alleluia!

Your dew is like the dew of the morning;

The earth will give birth to her dead. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* | **CW 157**

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!

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!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation has procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

O God, you made the dawn of this most holy day shine with the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Grant that we who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON**Job 19:23-27**

God's people have always confessed, "I believe in the resurrection of the body."

Oh how I wish that my words were written down.

Oh how I wish that they were inscribed in bronze,
that they would be engraved in rock forever
with an iron tool and letters filled with lead.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that at the end of time he will stand over the dust.

Then, even after my skin has been destroyed,
nevertheless, in my own flesh I will see God.

I myself will see him.

My own eyes will see him, and not as a stranger.

My emotions are in turmoil within me.

HYMN*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* | **CW 149 v 1-3**

“Christ the Lord is ris’n today!” Saints on earth and angels say;
 Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, O heav’ns, and earth, reply.

Love’s redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won;
 Lo, our sun’s eclipse is o’er; Lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
 Death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened paradise.

SECOND LESSON**1 Corinthians 15:19-26***The first Adam brought death to the world—the second Adam, life.*

If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ’s people, at his coming. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. For he must reign “until he has put all his enemies under his feet.” Death is the last enemy to be done away with.

HYMN*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* | **CW 149 v 4-6**

Lives again our glorious King! Where, O death, is now your sting?
 Once he died our souls to save; Where your victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led, Foll’wing our exalted head.
 Made like him, like him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies!

Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n! Praise to you by both be giv’n!
 God has now fulfilled his Word; Praise the resurrected Lord!

GOSPEL**Mark 16:1-8***The tomb was opened, not to let Jesus out, but to show that Jesus was not there—he had risen!*

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. They were saying to each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. He said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’” They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

HYMN OF THE DAY*This Joyful Eastertide* | **CW 160**

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
 My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow.

*Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three-day prison,
 Our faith had been in vain: But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
 But now is Christ arisen!*

Death’s flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
 Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver. *Refrain*

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
 Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain*

SERMON**John 20:19-23**

On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” After

saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Life-Giving Hands

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier

SERMON RESPONSE

He’s Risen, He’s Risen | **CW 143 v 1 & 4**

He’s risen, he’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain the praises prolong.

Oh, where is your sting, Death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.
For all our transgressions his blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own.

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING AND SOLO BY JOY SCHWARK

“This is the Day that the Lord Has Made”

Music by David von Kampen

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.
I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, oh give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. **Christ is risen!** For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive. **He is risen indeed!** He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification. **Alleluia!** We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead. **We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.** Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave. **You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.** With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan’s head and have removed our guilt. **You are risen!** Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us. **You are risen indeed!** Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation. **Alleluia!** Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord. **We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.** Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. **He is risen!** As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ. **He is risen indeed!** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer . . . Special prayers and intercessions

Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb. **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.**

HYMN

Like the Golden Sun Ascending | **CW 147 v 1-4**

Like the golden sun ascending, Breaking through the gloom of night,
On the earth its glory spending So that darkness takes to flight,
Thus my Jesus from the grave And death’s dismal, dreadful cave
Rose triumphant Easter morning At the early purple dawning.

Thanks to you, O Christ victorious! Thanks to you, O Lord of life!
Death has now no power o’er us, You have conquered in the strife.
Thanks because you did arise And have opened paradise!
None can fully sing the glory Of the resurrection story.

You have died for my transgression; All my sins on you were laid.
You have won for me salvation; On the cross my debt was paid.
From the grave I shall arise And shall meet you in the skies.
Death itself is transitory; I shall lift my head in glory.

Grant me grace, O blessed Savior, And your Holy Spirit send
That my life and my behavior May be pleasing to the end,
That I may not fall again Into death's grim pit and pain,
Whence by grace you have retrieved me And from which you have relieved me.

CLOSING PRAYER

O God, who made this most holy day to shine with the glory of the resurrection of our Lord, preserve in all your people the Spirit of adoption which you have given that they may serve you in faith and joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(spoken) **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May the grace of the Lord Jesus sanctify us and keep us from all evil; may Christ drive all hurtful things far from us and purify both our souls and bodies; may Christ bind us to himself by the bond of love; and may his peace abound in our hearts.

(spoken) **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | **CW 152 v 5-8**

All 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.

Font Side 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.

Ambo Side 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.

All 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!"

*The special Easter bulletin covers are given to the glory of our risen Savior by
Lois Klobucher in memory of her husband Robert Klobucher and by
Joe & Nancy Birkholz in memory of Robert & June Kartos.*

The Easter lilies decorating the sanctuary are given to the glory of our risen Savior by:

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- The Family of Angie Behnke in memory of Angie Behnke
- Dave Oelke in memory of his Mother and Father
- Jan Westphal & Family in memory of David Westphal
- Vonni & Don Dunn in memory of Bill & Mary Lou Vilski
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- Joy & Brian Schwark in memory of Barbara Schwark and David & Bonny Zarbock
- Chad & Jeremy Kollmann in memory of Jessica Kollmann, daughter of Mark & Sandy Kollmann
- The family of Brenda Barton in memory of Brenda Barton
- The family of Audrey & Lyle Dilts in memory of Audrey & Lyle Dilts
- Marcie & Royal Meyer in memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. George Blish and Mr. & Mrs. Reinhard Meyer
- Joe & Nancy Birkholz in memory of Robert & June Kartos
- The Family of Joan Lubeck in memory of Joan Lubeck
- The Will Family in memory of Wendy Tamm