



# EASTER SUNDAY

MARCH 31, 2024

8:30 AM AND 10:30 AM

CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

PASTOR LARRY SMOOSE PRESIDING AND PREACHING

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

**GATHERING**     The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life,  
**you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.**

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

**Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.**

Your waters are below us, around us, above us:

**our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.**

Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood,  
**Hagar discovers your well.**

The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock.

**Naaman washes away his leprosy, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.**

At this font, holy God, we pray praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water.

**Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation.**

Illumine our days. Enlivened our bones.

**Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.**

Shower us with your Spirit,

**and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen

## GATHERING SONG

### Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



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 en - dured, 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 you 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: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4  
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

## GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# Song of Praise

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

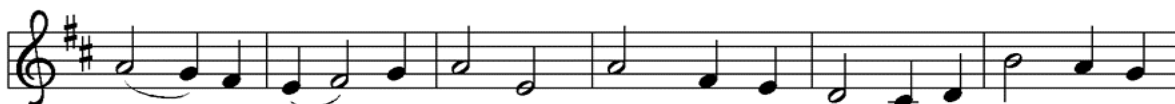
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**WORD** God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING:

**Acts 10:34-43**

A reading from Acts

*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

**PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24**



This is the day that the LORD has made;



let us re-joice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

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- <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;  
God's mercy en- | dures forever.
- <sup>2</sup>**Let Israel | now declare,**  
**"God's mercy en- | dures forever."**
- <sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength | and my song,  
and has become | my salvation.
- <sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**  
**"The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!"**
- <sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!  
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!"
- <sup>17</sup>**I shall not | die, but live,**  
**and declare the works | of the LORD. R**
- <sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,  
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.
- <sup>19</sup>**Open for me the | gates of righteousness;**  
**I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**
- <sup>20</sup>"This is the gate | of the LORD;  
here the righ- | teous may enter."
- <sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me**  
**and you have become | my salvation. R**
- <sup>22</sup>The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
has become the chief | cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has | this been done;**  
**it is marvelous | in our eyes.**
- <sup>24</sup>This is the day that the | LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be | glad in it. **R**

## SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

### A Reading from I Corinthians

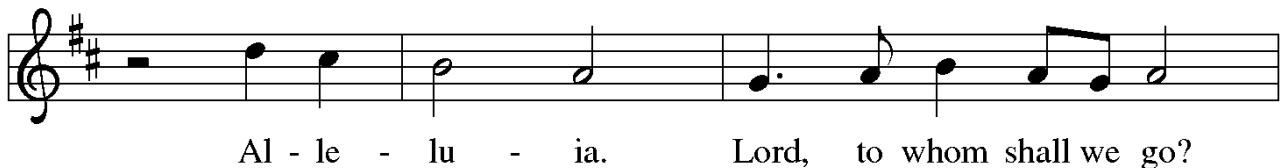
*The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his*

*followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and 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 and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <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, unfit 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 has not been 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 proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL:

Mark 16:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <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>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his

disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”<sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY :** *Christ Has Risen, Alleluia*

*ELW364*

*M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,*  
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
 3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear.

*m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.*  
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.

*A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,*  
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.

*m - si - fu - ni sa - sa - yu ha - i.*  
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 and in its con - quest his might did show.  
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there.”



*Refrain*

*Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.*  
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

*Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.*  
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

*Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;*  
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

*ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.*  
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 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 to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922  
 Music: Tanzanian traditional  
 Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress; English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. We pray for Nettie, Penny, Tom, Darryl, Penny, Marian, Darlene, Robert, Claude, Eveline, Family of Ken Chung, Gracie, Hailey, Ron, Pat, Ben, Carlos, Barbara, Marie Josie, Maria, Nisha, Sal, Peggy, Dianne, the Wykert family, and Pastor Randolph and the soldiers who are deployed with him. Hear us, O God.  
 God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Bless those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially Victoria Foster-Lee and Andrea Rees. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING**

**Offering Prayer**

Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

**MEAL      GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST**

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*Sharing the Lord's Supper is how we celebrate the presence of the risen Christ among us. Christ shared this meal with his disciples before laying down his life for them. After Christ's resurrection, his disciples have continued to break bread and share the cup as a way of receiving Christ and participating in his Body.*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER**

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

The Lord be with you.

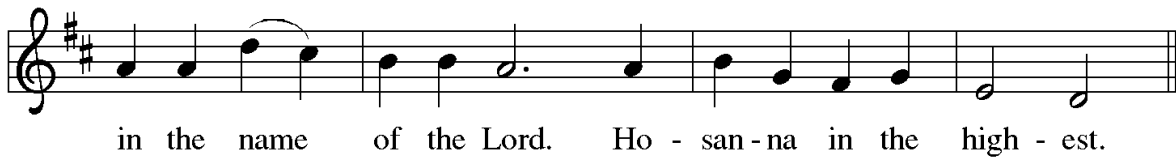
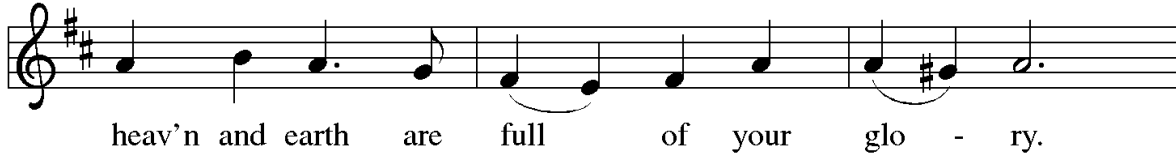
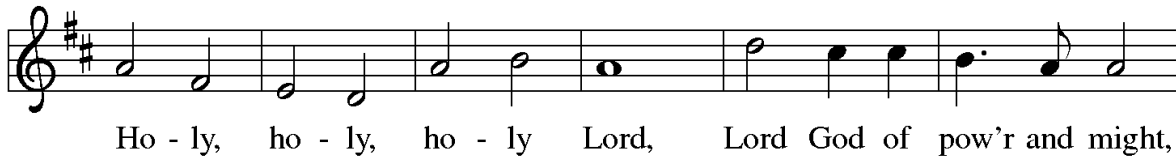
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...,  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*After the pastor has recounted God's saving acts, all are invited to pray:*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

# Lamb of God

ELW p. 154



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, grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

*All who desire to commune with Christ through the sharing of this meal are invited to come forward and receive the blessed bread and the wine. When receiving Communion, extend your hand, palm up, to receive the wafer of bread; to receive the wine (through intinction) dip the wafer into the chalice. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's Supper, approach the altar with your arms crossed over your chest.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Let us pray  
Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING** God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✝ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG ( *Next Page* ) – *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!* – *ELW 382***

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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### **CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

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The Rev. W. Roger Randolph III, STS, Pastor

rev.randolph3@gmail.com

# Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!  
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;  
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay  
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!  
 through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;  
 now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.  
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;  
 death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,  
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;  
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;

bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.  
 an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.  
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.  
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!