

WE HAVE A MEANINGFUL MESSAGE TO SHARE

resurrection
REALity

April 14, 2024



CHRIST Lutheran Church

"Our hope in Jesus is an anchor for the soul." Hebrews 6:19

500 Park Street | West Salem, WI 54669 | 608-786-1250

Pastor

Pastor Frelitz

Organist

Sunday: Chris Bright

Monday: Amy Cook

Ushers

Sunday 8:00 AM: Todd Greene & Dave Bright

■ *Sunday 10:30 AM: Jim Svendsen & Don Fruit*

Worship Hosts

Sunday 8:00 AM: Sue Greene

Sunday 10:30 AM:

Ushers

Monday 6:30 PM: Miller

Mission Statement

With the help of the Triune God, our mission is to gladly nurture the spiritual and physical needs of our congregation, to train our children in the knowledge of the Lord, to reach out to others with the saving message of Jesus' love and forgiveness.

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

SERIES THEME: RESURRECTION REALITY

St. Paul writes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus' resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time's infinite line, Jesus' resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now.

The greatest theologian of the early church, Augustine, called the season of Easter "a joyful week of weeks"—seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality. Our worship follows this pattern.

- † **Third Sunday of Easter - We Have a Meaningful Message to Share**
- † Fourth Sunday of Easter - The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding
- † Fifth Sunday of Easter - The Living Lord Produces Active Faith
- † Sixth Sunday of Easter Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours
- † Ascension of Our Lord Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever

THEME OF THE DAY: WE HAVE A MEANINGFUL MESSAGE TO SHARE

A platitude is a statement aimed at helping sooth some sort of emotional unease. "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Or "Life is a mystery." Or "Good things come to those who wait." While platitudes may be well-intentioned, at best they come off as trite. And since platitudes provide no real help, they can actually make a situation worse. Tell the one whose heart is shattering, "Life is a mystery." They won't appreciate your platitude or you.

The resurrection gives believers the ability to offer more than platitudes. We have a meaningful message to share—of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power. The reality is we have something important to say to every single person that God brings into our sphere of influence. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

THE SERVICE (SETTING THREE) PG. 188

660 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

CW 660



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
2 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;



here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
this is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
an - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.



here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:



and all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
the brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
my strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.

5 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.
The bread and wine remove, but you are here,
nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, abr., alt. Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595-1662 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

and for the un - it - y of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.
A - men. A - men.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman
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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, glo-ry to
 God, and peace to his peo-ple on earth,
 and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and
 Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
 Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
 Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
 God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line. The music is written in a simple, clear style suitable for congregational singing.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman
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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 3:11–20

¹¹While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people came running toward them in utter amazement in the area called Solomon's Colonnade.

¹²When Peter saw this, he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this? Why are you staring at us, as if by our own power or godliness we have made this man walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and disowned in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you. ¹⁵You killed the Author of Life, whom God raised from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶And on the basis of faith in his name, it is the name of Jesus that has strengthened this man, whom you see and know. This faith that comes through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“Now brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just like your leaders. ¹⁸But in this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through the mouth of all the prophets: that his Christ would suffer. ¹⁹Therefore repent and return to have your sins wiped out, ²⁰so that refreshing times may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

150B Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Psalm 150B

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Tone



Praise God in his sanctu- / ary;
praise him in his mighty / heavens.
Praise him for his acts of / power;
praise him for his surpassing / greatness. *Refrain*

Praise him with the sounding of the / trumpet,
praise him with the / harp and lyre,
praise him with timbrel and / dancing,
praise him with the / strings and pipe,
praise him with the clash of / cymbals,
praise him with resounding / cymbals. *Refrain*

Let everything that has breath / praise the LORD.
Praise / the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Walter L. Pelz Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 717684

Second Reading

1 John 1:5—2:2

⁵ This is the message we heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light. In him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness, we are lying and do not put the truth into practice. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, just as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar, and his Word is not in us.

^{2:1} My children, I write these things to you so that you will not sin. If anyone does sin, we have an Advocate before the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

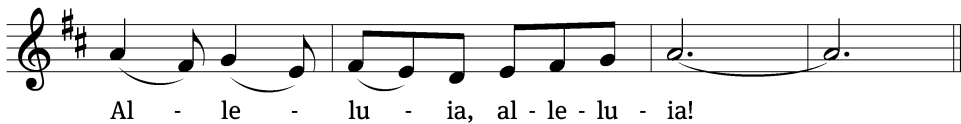
Stand

Gospel Acclamation

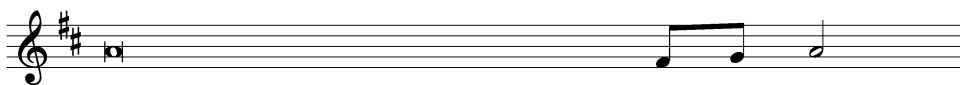
Luke 24:46,47



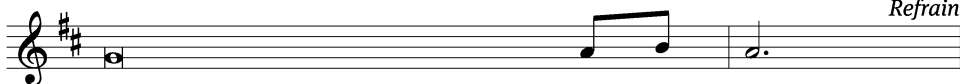
Refrain



Tone



The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,



and repentance for the forgiveness of sins
will be preached in his name to all na - tions.

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Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷But they were terrified and frightened and thought they were looking at a ghost.

³⁸He said to them, “Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While they still did not believe it (because of their joy), and while they were still wondering, he said to them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³He took it and ate in front of them. ⁴⁴He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

459 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

CW 459



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n a - gain; Christ has bro - ken
2 He who gave for us his life, who for us en -
3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up -
4 He whose path no rec - ords tell has de - scend - ed



death's strong chain. Hark, the an - gels shout for joy,
dured the strife, is our Pas - chal Lamb to - day.
on the cross lives in glo - ry now on high,
in - to hell; he the strong man armed has bound



sing - ing ev - er - more on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!
We too sing for joy and say: Hal - le - lu - jah!
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hal - le - lu - jah!
and in high - est heav'n is crowned. Hal - le - lu - jah!

5 He who slumbered in the grave
is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings
that the Lamb is King of kings.
Hallelujah!

6 Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiv'n,
how we, too, may enter heav'n.
Hallelujah!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534, abr.
Tune: Latin, c. 1100, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Communicating Christ's Completed Work

Sermon Study Guide

1. Jesus said that everything written about him must be fulfilled. What had been written about him? What promises did the Old Testament contain that were fulfilled in Jesus?

** Note: Jesus fulfilled at least 300 prophecies from the Old Testament. The likelihood that just 8 prophecies would be fulfilled in one person is about 1 in 10^{17} (that is one followed by 17 zeros [100,000,000,000,000]). The likelihood that 48 prophecies would be fulfilled in one person is about 1 in 10^{157} . Imagine what it would be for all 300!*

2. Jesus opened the minds of the disciples to understand Christ's completed work. What was his completed work?
3. Jesus wasn't going to be with them much longer. He would no longer be preaching the message himself. Who would be? How would they go about doing that? In other words, what were they to proclaim?

Stand

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Offering

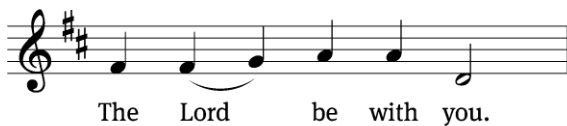
*Please use this opportunity to fill in the Friendship Register. Thank you
for worshipping with us today!*

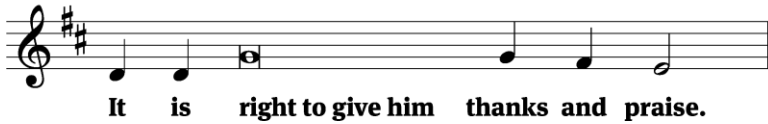
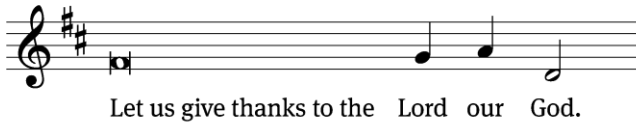
The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 199





Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts, heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God

CW 202

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, grant us peace.

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Be seated

Distribution

Thank you for Respecting our Communion Practice. The Bible teaches that partaking of the body and blood of Christ is a special assurance of forgiveness to penitent believers in Christ. It is also an expression of our oneness in the doctrines we teach and believe. Christ wants us to administer this blessed sacrament responsibly. We would ask that if you are not a communicant member of Christ Lutheran and desire the sacrament, please kindly speak with one of the pastors before the service. Pamphlets are available in the narthex which explain our communion practice according to the Holy Scriptures.



713 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

CW 713



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Tune: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 717684

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look o

n you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

746 I Love to Tell the Story

CW 746 sts. 1, 6, 2



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 6 An an - gel brought glad ti - dings: "Send all your fears a - way,
 2 The Sav - ior of all peo - ple has brought his peace to you;



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 for Christ, your Lord and Sav - ior, is born for you this day."
 now go and tell the sto - ry, for oth - ers need it too.



I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;
 Then man - y oth - er an - gels sang praise for Je - sus' birth:
 To ev - 'ry land and na - tion ring out the gos - pel call;



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 "To God on high be glo - ry, and peace to all the earth."
 pro - claim that Christ is ris - en and grants his peace to all.



Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text (sts. 1–2, 2): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain
 Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835–1912 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church