

## 2nd Sunday of Easter

April 3, 2016

*We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday and throughout the year. It's because of his death and resurrection that we are assured of forgiveness from our sins, and everlasting life with God. The liturgical colors are white, a color of triumph and glory, and gold, a color of joy.*

***Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.***

### Pre-service Music

### Welcome/Worship Instructions

*Stand as you are able.*

### Gathering Music

*We Walk By Faith*

ELW 635 (red book)

### Greeting

☐ The lord be with you.

☑ And also with you.

### Hymn of Praise

*Now the Feast and Celebration*

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has  
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new.

### Prayer of the Day

☞ Let us pray . . . Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt,

☞ may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Sit*

### First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

*Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus’ death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church’s proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

📖 A reading from **Acts**:

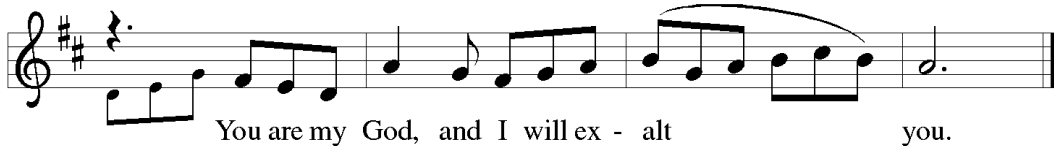
<sup>27</sup>When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.”

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.

<sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

🗨 The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**



<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.

<sup>25</sup>**Hosanna! | O LORD, save us!**  
**We pray to you, LORD, pros- | per our days! R**

<sup>26</sup>Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the LORD;  
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup>**The LORD is God and has giv- | en us light.**  
**Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.**

<sup>28</sup>You are my God, and | I will thank you;  
you are my God, and I | will exalt you.

<sup>29</sup>**Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;**  
**God’s mercy en- | dures forever. R**

## Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

*The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.*

### ☐ A reading from **Revelation**:

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life: Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Lord appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

☐ The Gospel according to **John**.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

### Children's Message

*All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children's sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message.*

### Message

*Stand as you are able.*

### Song of the Day

*Taste and See*

**ELW 493** (red book)

*Kneel or sit as you are able.*

### The Prayers

*Prayer Response*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**A** Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Holy God of resurrection, fill us with your Holy Spirit to announce the new life you give through Christ Jesus. Lead us to people who need to hear good news. Honor the obedience of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Sarah; our companion churches in Latvia, Honduras and Papua New Guinea, Hope Community Church in Rockford, Quimby United Church in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Paul. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

**A** Breathe new life into all of creation. Send sun to warm and water to saturate yards, fields, and mountains. Set all things in order, that abundance may come forth. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

**A** Open paths for cooperation between nations to care for refugees, survivors of natural disaster, and people living through war. Bless the efforts of peacemaking troops, diplomats, and relief organizations to foster peace in the world. Protect those who serve in the military, especially Myrina Clements, Kayla Pohl, Joshua Wright and Tim Krewson. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

**A** Pour out your enduring mercy to strengthen those who persevere in difficult times. Guide them to places where they may find shelter in your presence. We pray especially for *Al Miller, Ardith Hart, Roxanne Kehoe, Corrina and Rick Palmer, Zeus Duites, Wes and Opal Gillons and Irene Loughlin*. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

**A** Gather together the various gifts of this community and unite us in praise. Harmonize the sound and movement of instruments, voices, hands, feet, and, bodies. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** You have united yourself with the saints at rest through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. Join us all together in his resurrection on the last day. Christ is Risen;

**G** **Your mercy is great . . . . . (prayer response).**

**P** We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord.

**G** **Amen.**

*Stand as you are able.*

### **Sharing the Peace**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**G** **And also with you.**

*(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)*

*Sit*

### **Offering of Gifts & Music**

*Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill it out and place a Participation Card in the offering plate every Sunday morning.*

Stand as you are able.

## Offering Song

*As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW 465 (red book)

## Offertory Prayer

**A** Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

**G** Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**G** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**G** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer

☞ Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others. 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. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.



Christ \_\_\_ has died. Christ \_\_\_ is



ris - en. Christ \_\_\_ will come, come a - gain.

☞ Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen, come Lord Jesus; Amen, Come Lord Jesus.

### ☞ Amen.



A - men, Come \_\_\_ Lord Je - sus; A -



men, Come \_\_\_ Lord Je - sus. \_\_\_



☐ Amen, Come, Holy Spirit. Amen, Come, Holy Spirit.

*Congregation:*

A - men, Come Ho - ly Spir - it. A -  
men, Come Ho - ly Spir - it. \_\_\_\_\_

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff begins with the word 'Amen' and continues with 'Come Holy Spirit'. The second staff continues the melody with 'men, Come Holy Spirit' and ends with a long horizontal line indicating a continuation of the phrase.

### THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST

*Congregation:*

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
u-ni-ty of the Spir - it \_\_\_\_\_ all glo - ry and hon - or is  
yours, O God, now and for - ev - er, \_\_\_\_\_  
A - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: 'Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ in the u-ni-ty of the Spir - it \_\_\_\_\_ all glo - ry and hon - or is yours, O God, now and for - ev - er, \_\_\_\_\_ A - - - men. \_\_\_\_\_'. The music features a steady eighth-note rhythm with some melodic flourishes.

### Lord's Prayer

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☑ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation To Communion

☐ The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

*Sit*

### *Communion at Grace*

*All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.*

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

### *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
mer - cy on us.

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the second line of lyrics. The third staff is in 2/4 time and contains the melody for the third line of lyrics. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

#### **Additional Verses:**

**You break the chains of hatred and fear:**

**You are the way of justice and peace:**

**You are the way of mercy and love:**

**You are the bread of life for us all:**

**You pour your Holy Spirit on us:**

*Final time:*



Lamb of God, you



take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

*I Am the Bread of Life*

ELW 485 (red book)

*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

ELW 484 (red book)

*Stand as you are able.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

**A** Let us pray . . . We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.

**G** Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Sit*

### **Announcements**

*Stand as you are able*

### **Blessing**

**P** The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of † Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.

**G** Amen.

*All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.*

**Sending Hymn**

*Christ, Be Our Light*

**ELW 715** (red book)

**Sending**

**A** Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

*We depart for study, service and fellowship.*

If you forgot to place your Participation Card in the offering plate, you can still drop it off in the basket outside the sanctuary.