

Grace Lutheran Church

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Christ
is
Risen!

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
April 9, 2023

The Festival Worship of Christ's Resurrection

April 9, 2023

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.

Easter Good News

☐ On Good Friday when Jesus suffered and died on the cross the light went out of the world. Our sins were paid, and our salvation won; but the cost was the very life of Jesus Christ. Christ suffered and died, and darkness and silence covered the world. But darkness could not overcome the Light. Death could not conquer our Lord. On the third day Christ rose from the grave. Christ's life and glory and presence fill the world and fill our very lives. Our hearts fill with joy and our voices fill with praise. Jesus Christ lives. Alleluia!

☐ It is Easter Sunday and the tomb is empty. So, we come to proclaim together:

☑ **Christ is risen!**

☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

☐ Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!

☑ **Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia! Praise be to God!**

Gathering Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

ELW 365

Easter Greeting

☐ Holy people of God, given new life through the gospel of Christ, and enlightened by the Spirit: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

☐ Let us pray . . . O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death.

☑ **Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading**Acts 10:34-43**

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, sums up the essential message of Christianity. Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

L A reading from **Acts**:

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

A Word of God, word of life.**G** **Thanks be to God.**

This is the Day

Group 1 Group 2 Group 1 Group 2

1 This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the
 2 O - pen to us, o - pen to us the gates of God, the
 3 You are our God, you are our God, we will praise your name, we will

Lord has made. We will re - joice, we will re - joice and be
 gates of God; we will go in, we will go in and
 praise your name; we will give thanks, we will give thanks for your

glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the
 praise the Lord, and praise the Lord. O - pen to us the
 faith - ful - ness, for your faith - ful - ness. You are our God; we will

Lord has made; we will re - joice and be glad in it.
 gates of God; we will go in and praise the Lord.
 praise your name; we will give thanks for your faith - ful - ness.

Group 1 Group 2 All E^b/B^b B⁷ E^b

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.
 O - pen to us, o - pen to us the gates of God.
 You are our God, you are our God; we will praise your name.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

☐ A reading from **Colossians**:

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

☐ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Arise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

ELW 426

Stanza 1

1 Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, sing the res - ur - rec - tion song!

in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to “fear and great joy” when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

☐ A Reading from the Gospel of **Matthew**.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

☐ The Gospel of the Risen Christ.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Time

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. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Silence for reflection. After reflection,

Arise in body or in spirit to sing the hymn.

Hymn of the Day

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

Nicene Creed

A We confess our faith as one body in Christ Jesus:

G 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

You may sit or kneel for prayer.

Prayers

We sing the prayer response and then the prayer petition is prayed, after each petition the prayer response is sung.



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

- Ⓐ Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

- Ⓐ We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love especially *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David and Roseanne, our synod companions Trinity Lutheran Church, Barton City; Cedar Creek Bible Church, Delton; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Lord in your mercy,
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Lord in your mercy,
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ We pray for the nations of the world. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Be with those who safeguard the world,

including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Julia Ehredt (Schreiner, Halstead), and Seth Domke (Domke)*. Lord in your mercy,

☞ (sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Ⓐ You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage *see insert*
Lord in your mercy,

☞ (sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Ⓐ We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism. Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives. Lord in your mercy,

☞ (sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Ⓐ We give thanks for the lives of all your saints. Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope they shared in you.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. Lord in your mercy,

☞ (sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Ⓟ With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

☞ Amen.

Arise in body or spirit.

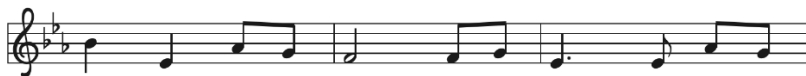
Offering Song

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

ACS 966



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



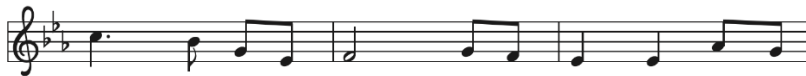
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.

☞ Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of God

☞ The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

☞ And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Great Thanksgiving

☞ 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.

Table Prayer

☞ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation.

☞ By dying on the cross, Jesus has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

☞ 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.

☞ 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.

☞ With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith.

☞ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

☞ Pour your Holy Spirit upon us as we share this meal in the body and blood of our Lord.

☞ Make us one with Christ and will all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful people until we feast at your table in glory.

Lord's Prayer

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

☞ Our Father in heaven, holy 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

℟ Holy things for holy people.

☞ One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God.

℟ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Sit

Communion

Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW 474

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

ELW 619

Prayer after Communion

Ⓐ We give you thanks, O God, for making your home with us and bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.

☞ 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.

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

℟ Alleluia! Christ is risen.

☞ Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

℟ God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, **✝** Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

☞ Amen.

Sending

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

- ☐ You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace, share the good news.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Assisting Minister – Chris Bush
Minister of Music – Cindy Olson
Pastor – Ken Scheck

Lector – Jamie Heise
Accompanist – Chris Bush
Fellowship – The Scheck Family

Prayer Chain Grace is activating the prayer chain. If you want to be a part of the prayer chain, or have a request for prayer, please text or call Patti Comp at 248.408.5613.

The nursery is available during the 10:45 worship service. Aurora Collins is the Nursery Attendant. She would love to have some little ones visit her. Please spread the word that Grace provides childcare during this worship service.

Mark your calendar for our Special One Service Only Worship on April 30th at 10 am. Come and celebrate with a meal afterwards and hear some wonderful music.

Save the date May 7! Thornapple Players presents *Into the Woods*. Look for a signup sheet, so can plan to sit together. Cost for tickets are \$10.00 for Adults and \$8.00 for Senior Citizens and Students. Please use cash for this event, as Thornapple Players do not accept the church charge payment.

Spring Flower Sale \$6.00 each. Orders due May 10, 2023, with pick-up on Saturday, May 13th.

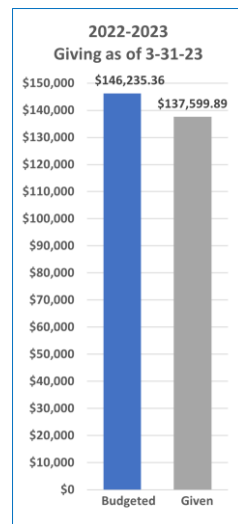
Welcome to worship today! We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the ONE who rose from the dead.

Noisy Offering will be collected today to benefit Barry County Cares. You may place coins and other money into the silver bowl located in the front during the singing of the offertory song. Noisy Offering is taken every second Sunday.

- Ⓐ You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized especially *Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Sharon Bolton, Cherie Clements, Pat Wales DePew, Bob & Bonnie Ehredt, Amanda Haddix (pregnancy), Katie Holzgen (pregnancy), Corrina Palmer, Carl Schoessel, Al Throop, Erika Wood*, and for all health care workers who care for them. Lord in your mercy,
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**

Stewardship Information

Attendance: 70 Views: 398
 Weekly Giving: \$1,977.06 Budget Amount: \$4,301.04
 March Online Giving: \$2,798.00 Pasty Sale: \$1,609.00
 ELCA World Hunger: \$235.00 Helping Hands: \$900.00
 Easter Flower Sale: \$260.00 Green Team/Paper Gator: \$57.50
Lifting Up Campaign Needed: \$14,465.65; Note starting need was \$25,000.00.
Lifting Up Campaign Received: -\$ 0.00
 TOTAL Outstanding: \$14,465.65



As you see above, Grace is now accepting online donations through a QR code. We also continue to have online giving through our website.

The Stone-Moving Power of God

Special effort had been taken to seal up Jesus' tomb. Pilate and the religious authorities had taken great care to make absolutely certain there was no way Jesus' followers could move that stone themselves. They posted armed guards all around.

If they had had the technology back then, we could well imagine that floodlights, security cameras, and an alarm system would have been added to the tomb. But none of that would have mattered. For nothing in heaven or on earth could have stopped the stone-moving power of our God. An angel messenger comes in a brilliant flash to roll that stone away, and then he sits on it to share the good news that Jesus is alive. What had been intended by those who persecuted Jesus as a *period*—a full stop for the Jesus movement—becomes a *pulpit* for proclamation: “Do not be afraid!” (Matthew 28:5). Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

As we remember the story of Jesus' resurrection, we tune our hearts and minds to trust that this God who brings life out of death is still at work. What stones might God be moving today? Might we sense the Spirit at work in our lives here and now, rumbling the ground of our hearts and rolling away the messages of shame, fear, or rejection that have weighed us down? Might God be at work, rolling away stones of oppression and injustice in our world? Might we be sent, like these women, to not let fear rule our hearts, but to go, tell, and witness to a God who continues to open up a new future for us? Yes! The risen Christ appears to us today—present in word, and bread and wine, and water—ready to bless, nourish, call, and send. Nothing can stop this God. Jesus Christ is risen, indeed—Alleluia!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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