

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 5, 2026

The Festival Worship of Christ's Resurrection

April 5, 2026

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

At the Lamb's High Feast

ELW 362 (red book)

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.**

Psalm: 118:14-24 (A Paraphrase for Easter)

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!



GOD'S my strength, GOD'S also my song, and now is | my salvation.
Hear the shouts, hear the triumph songs in the camp | of the saved?

**“The hand of GOD has turned the tide! The hand of GOD is | raised in victory!
The hand of GOD has | turned the tide!”** (*Refrain*)

I didn't die. I lived! And now I'm telling the world | what GOD did.
GOD tested me, and pushed me hard, but didn't hand me o|ver to Death.

**Swing wide the city gates – the righteous gates!
I'll walk right through | and thank God!
This Temple Gate belongs to God,
So the victors can en|ter and praise.** (*Refrain*)

Thank you for responding to me; you've truly become | my salvation!
The stone the masons discarded as flawed is | now the capstone!

**This is GOD'S work. We rub our eyes – we can hard|ly believe it!
This is the very day GOD acted – let's celebrate | and be festive!** (*Refrain*)

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!



Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for - mer days be - long.



All a - round the clouds are break - ing, soon the storms of time shall cease;



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

This Joyful Eastertide

ELW 391

Nicene Creed

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

☒ **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 pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **Merciful God.** The assembly prays, **Receive our prayer.***

- A** Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

- A** Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

- A** Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

- A** Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

- A** Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain (*named allowed by the worshipping community*). Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

- A** Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- A** Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,

C **Receive our prayer.**

- P** God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

Arise in body or spirit.

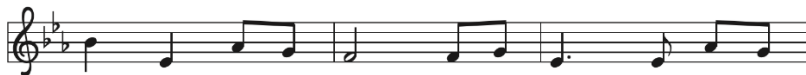
Offering Song

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



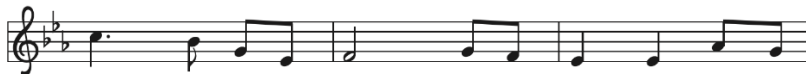
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



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

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

- P The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.
- C 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

Blessed Assurance
We Come to the Hungry Feast
I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

WOV 699 (*blue book*)
WOV 766
ELW 860 (*red book*)

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.**

Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

ELW 365

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

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Anna Scheck

Lector – Bill Freedlund

Cantor – Paul Kuhlman

Musician – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Fellowship – Diane Neeb

Ushering – Erin and Greg Franks

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. 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 Jesus, who died on the cross and is raised to new life. Let us celebrate the life we have in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

Stewardship Information

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Attendance: 53 Views: 188
 Weekly Giving: \$1,580.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.02

Offerings received to date through February \$130,393.60
 Offerings received in March + \$18,824.57
 Year to date total of offerings \$149,218.17

Grace Projects Goal \$ 7,000.00 Matching 3 to 1 Cement Project
 Received To Date -\$ 0,000.00
Total Needed \$ 7,000.00

Given this week toward Non-Budget Funds: \$101.00 (ELCA World Hunger)
 \$240.00 (Easter Flower sale)

Given this week toward Grace Projects - Parking Lot fund: \$0.00 Brat sale: \$12.00

The Congregation Council invites you to contribute to the Parking Lot Cement Project. We have had a member step forward giving a 3 to 1 match, up to \$7,000, for any monies received April 1st through April 30th. Thank you for considering contributing toward the cement project.

Parish Administrator is Cindy Olson. Her office hours are 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Mon-Wed. Pastor Ken's office hours are now 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Mon & Wed.

The nursery is available weekly during the worship service.

Spring Flower Sale has begun. Help raise funds for Samaritas (formerly Lutheran Social Services).

Women of Faith will be starting a **new topic** for our **Bible Study in April: Growing Older and Wiser. We meet Tuesdays 11:00 am – noon at church.** All women are welcome (and don't worry if you have to miss some weeks)! Please join us this week, April 7th.

Social Activities Committee has two upcoming events planned: **Game and Pizza Day: after worship on Sunday, April 19th.** We hope to see you there for a time of fellowship and fun! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area by next week for the purpose of ordering enough pizza for everyone present. Also, an **outing to see "Shrek" at the Dennison Center** is planned for **May 9th, with dinner following. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for each event.**

Pasty Sale Blast from the Past May 2: Unbaked \$7.00 & Baked \$8.00