

HE HAS RISEN!



Easter Festival
2022

*"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." - 1 Corinthians 15:56-57*

Our Savior Ev. Lutheran

EASTER FESTIVAL SERVICE

April 17, 2022

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WORSHIP NOTES

For God's people an Easter service needs no formal introduction, for today we celebrate the central teaching of our faith. We gather to hear the incomparable news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. His resurrection assures us of our resurrection and inspires us to live now, every day, for him. (2 Cor 5:14-15)

Let us join together to worship the living Lord with gladness and joy!

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Allow us, who have been raised with him through baptism, to walk in the newness of life and ever to rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory. We are in awe of your resurrection truth, for it lights the way forward for us, through our Lord and our Savior, Jesus. To him be the glory forever. Amen.

THE INVOCATION

P: *(sung)* I will praise your name forever, my King and my God. (Psalm 8)

C: ***(sung)* Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.** (Psalm 1)

P: *(sung)* I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people. (Psalm 85)

C: ***(sung)* This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!** (Psalm 118)

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

P: Upon the hill the cross stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb.

C: **Christ is risen, Alleluia!**

P: Within us, new life is awakened. God has given new hope to a dying world.

C: **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! Amen!**

THE OPENING HYMN "Welcome, Happy Morning"

CW, # 163

"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

Lo, the Dead is living, God forevermore!

Him their true Creator, All his works adore.

"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

Maker and Redeemer, Life and Health of all,
God from heav'n beholding Human nature's fall,
Of the Father's Godhead You, the only Son,
Mankind to deliver Manhood did put on.
"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say;
 "Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

He, of life the author, Death did undergo,
Trode the path of darkness, Saving strength to show.
Come, then, True and Faithful, Now fulfill your word;
This is your third morning -- Rise, O buried Lord.
"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say;
 "Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

Free the souls long prisoned, Bound with Satan's chain;
All that now is fallen Raise to life again.
Show your face in brightness; Shine in ev'ry land
As in Eden's garden When the world began.
"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say;
 "Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

Rejoice, too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.

Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

P: The Lord be with you,

C: ***(sung)* and also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts

C: ***(sung)* We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: ***(sung)* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and your one and only Son, Jesus Christ.

For he is the true Paschal Lamb who offered himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of his precious blood.

C: **This day we remember when you brought the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground.**

This is the morning when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality.

This is the morning when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the dawn of the new creation breaks forth out of night.

P: Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave you gave your Son.

C: **How holy is this day when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.**

How holy is this day when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast.

How blessed is this day when man is reconciled to God in Christ.

P: Holy Father, accept now our Easter worship of thanksgiving and praise.

C: **Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

HYMN "This Joyful Eastertide"

From CW, #160:1

This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen!



HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!



THE CONFESSION OF SINS

- P:** O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and are worthy to receive only your punishment and condemnation. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. At your command and promise, therefore, we come to you and confess our sins.
- C:** **O holy and merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious word I come to you, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ I plead: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner!**

THE KYRIE

- P:** Having heard your confession, I as your called minister of God's Word assure you that our gracious Father in heaven has heard your prayer, and by the command of the Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!
- C:** *(sung)* Amen.

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY

- P:** Let us pray. Lord Jesus, when you rose victorious from death, you gave us a day of great rejoicing. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone of our faith. Let cries of exultation ring out to celebrate the good news of your resurrection, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.
- C:** *(sung)* Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON Exodus 15:1-11

The song of Moses and the Israelites foreshadows our song of joy on this day. The evil foe sought to pull us back into the slavery of sin. Yet the hand of the Lord has saved his people. Just as he rescued the Israelites through the waters of the Red Seas, so he has rescued us from sin and death through water and the Word. He has connected to the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of his one and only Son through the waters of baptism.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone. "Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty you threw down those who opposed you. You unleashed your burning anger; it consumed them like stubble. By the blast of your nostrils the waters

piled up. The surging waters stood firm like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea. "The enemy boasted, 'I will pursue, I will overtake them. I will divide the spoils; I will gorge myself on them. I will draw my sword and my hand will destroy them.' But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters. "Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you—majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?

RESPONSE

"I Am Content"

CW, #158:1

I am content! My Jesus lives again,
In whom my heart is pleased.
He has fulfilled the law of God for me;
God's wrath he has appeased.
Since he in death could perish never,
I also shall not die forever.
I am content! I am content!

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 4:16-25

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring-- not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

HYMN "Amazing Grace"

CW, #379

Amazing grace -- how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 28:1-10

With the women, we have traveled along with Jesus through his Passion and watched as he was laid in the tomb. But the final trip to the tomb doesn't reveal the finality OF death. Rather, it reveals the finality FOR death. What a change! No doubt Peter was confused, wondering what had happened. Do not look for the living among the dead. Death has been swallowed up in victory; Christ has risen just as he said! Death no longer has mastery over us. Easter means that death ends in life!

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

THE SERMON HYMN "This Joyful Eastertide"

CW, #160:2-3

(please remain standing for the hymn)

Pastor: Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.

Men: *Refrain:* Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen!

Women: My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number.

All: *Refrain:* Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen!

THE SERMON Romans 4:25 **“GOD DECLARES IN OUR FAVOR”**

THE CREED Second Article, Luther's Catechism

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

OFFERINGS

While the offerings are being collected, members and guests are asked to sign the red “Friendship Register”. Look at the names in the book as it is passed along the pew and then please pass it back to the main aisle, taking time to look at the names of the people who are sitting in your pew.

THE OFFERTORY "I Am Content"

CW, #158:2-3

I am content! My Jesus is my head;
His member I will be.
He bowed his head when on the cross
he died With cries of agony.
Now death is brought into subjection
For me, too, by his resurrection.
I am content! I am content!

I am content! My Jesus is my Light,
My radiant sun of grace.
His cheering rays beam blessings forth for all:
Sweet comfort, hope, and peace.
This Easter sun has brought salvation
And everlasting exultation.
I am content! I am content!

THE PRAYERS & THE 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

THE BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING HYMN "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

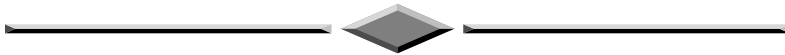
CWS, #720

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand he stands
And brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of Alleluia! Alleluia!

It was a strange and dreadful strife
When life and death contended.
The victory remained with life;
The reign of death was ended.
Holy Scripture plainly says
That death is swallowed up by death,
Its sting is lost forever. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree--
So strong his love--to save us.
See, his blood now marks our door;
Faith points to it; death passes o'er,
And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia! Alleluia!

So let us keep the festival
To which the Lord invites us;
Christ is himself the joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
The night of sin is ended. Alleluia! Alleluia!



SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE POSTLUDE

Officiant: Pastor Mark C. Wagner

Organist: Jon Hahm

Intro: Who do you know has been raised from the dead? Who do you know has raised someone from the dead? Jesus' Resurrection is a big deal because it happened only once, but once was enough to set us free.

God Declares in our Favor

1. Justification comes from the Empty Tomb.

- 1.1 We don't want to try to justify ourselves because we can't.
- 1.2 We don't want others to declare us innocent if the judge won't say that it's true.
- 1.3 Only one verdict matters – what God says about us and to us.

APP: God withdrew sin's legal right against believers so that it could no longer condemn us. By putting an innocent man to death he transferred the debt to him and then... as the resurrection announces, he declared Jesus (and us through his life) free from sin forever.

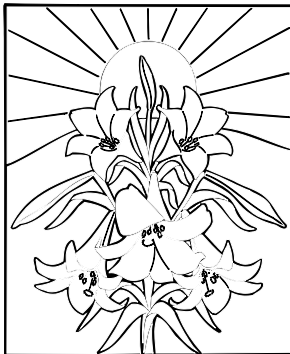
2. God's Declaration has been Deposited into our Account.

- 2.1 On the Cross Jesus finished the payment once for all.
- 2.2 Out of the Tomb Jesus brought a declaration of change.
- 2.3 This declaration of not guilty changes our future, forever.

APP: From the courtroom to the bank... we have been credited with righteousness, just like Abraham. From Jesus' account to ours, this is an amazing, satisfying discovery – a priceless deposit has been made.

Conclusion: Easter brings more than bunnies and eggs in the spring fresh air, it means freedom from the prison of sin and fear and death. It means we have all the resources we need for a permanent vacation and that's really good news.

A Blessed Easter to All!



A blessed Easter to all from the church/school staff and families!

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS - You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. This is his house and he is your heavenly Father. Come, then, into his presence offering him your love and service. Come, expecting to share in the greatest things that life can offer. Come, to hear of full and free forgiveness. And come to know that you are "more than conquerors" over sin, death and the devil. For God promised to the first sinners that they would be forgiven through One of their own, an offspring...whom we have met again today. His name, the most important name of all, is Jesus, God's Son, our Savior.

NURSERY - There is a mothers' room with sound system speakers at the rear of the church on the same side as the organ.

THANK YOU, to all who helped to beautify our service with music, decorations and a genuine love for Christ. We are so blessed to know him and to have our forever future secure.

EASTER PLANTS - We wish to thank all of our congregation members for helping to beautify our house of worship by giving flowering plants for the altar. Your plant may be picked up following the 9:30 festival service. Thank you.

Thursday Services will resume this coming Thursday at 7 p.m.

Regular Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:30 am on Sunday Mornings
7:00 pm on Thursday Evenings

Communion is celebrated the on the first and third Sundays of the month and the prior Thursday.

Sunday School & Teen Bible Study: 9:15 am - Between Sunday Morning Services

Adult Bible Study: 9:15 am – Sunday Morning, between Services, and various times during the week.

Our Savior Ev. Lutheran School offers classes for 3 & 4-Year-Old Kindergarten through 8th grade.

OUR SAVIOR EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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