



# Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020

# ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)*

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR ONLINE IN-HOME WORSHIP SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today in our online in-home worship service! This service is designed to be used with just one person or with your family and friends who have gathered to thank and praise Jesus for his continued goodness to us. Print as many copies of this bulletin as you wish or follow along looking at this file on any computer, tablet or phone.

Before watching, it may be helpful to remove distractions from the room such as pets, loud toys, etc. Parents might explain to children that we will be worshiping Jesus while the video is playing, listening and responding just like we usually do at church. It might feel a little odd at first to worship this way, but if you explain the situation beforehand, you can expect better participation in your home.

## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is the single greatest event in all history. It is the turning point of history and the birthplace of all hope, peace, and true joy. What a day to celebrate! Christ lives! And because He lives, we too shall live a forgiven, abundant, and eternal life. When Jesus Christ rose from the dead, death was "swallowed up" in his resurrection victory. We celebrate a variety of victories in our lives, but Christ's victory is certainly the greatest! Heaven is ours, through Christ! Hope is ours, through Christ! Let the victory celebration begin and never end!



“He has risen;  
See he is not here.  
the place where they laid him.”

Mark 16:6

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

*Bless us, O Lord, as we prepare to worship you today. Help us to concentrate on your life-saving gospel which reminds us that heaven is ours. Help us take this to heart. Amen.*

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

### OPENING PRAISE

### Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (He's Alive)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heav'ns and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O Death, is now thy sting, Alleluia!  
Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

He's alive, He's alive!  
Night has gone and dawn has come.  
He's alive, He's alive!  
Death has lost and life has won!  
He's alive!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

He's alive, He's alive!  
Night has gone and dawn has come.  
He's alive, He's alive!  
Death has lost and life has won!

He's alive, He's alive!  
Night has gone and dawn has come.  
He's alive, He's alive!  
Death has lost and life has won!  
He's alive, He's alive, He's alive!

Minister: In the name of God the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. This is the day which the Lord has made;

**Congregation: We will rejoice and be glad.**

M: Why do you look for the Living among the dead?

**C: The Lord is risen, hallelujah!**

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins;

**C: And was raised again for our justification.**

M: I know that my Redeemer lives!

**C: And that in the end he will stand upon the earth.**

M: Remember how he spoke to you:

**C: The Son of Man must be crucified and rise on the third day.**

M: The Lord is risen! Hallelujah!

**C: He is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!**

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: In Romans 4:25 we read: "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." It was our sin that brought Jesus to the cross. And it is Easter that brings us God's forgiveness. This morning we claim that forgiveness as our own, not by denying our sin, but by making an honest confession of it, and rejoicing together in the Easter victory of our Savior.

**C: Lord, I confess that my sin is such a serious problem that it took the innocent death of your dear Son to purchase forgiveness for it. Yet, I believe that Jesus was delivered over to death for me, and that his suffering made payment in full for all my sins of desire, thought, word, and deed. Have mercy on me. Release me from the tomb of my selfishness. Roll away the stone of my sin. Raise me to a new and better life by the power of Your resurrection.**

### **ABSOLUTION**

M: Yes, Jesus was put to death for our sins, and their dreadful price has been fully paid by his holy blood. And Jesus rose again for our justification, which means that God has accepted the payment Jesus made for us. God has declared us forgiven. So rejoice and put your faith in Christ! Know that your Redeemer lives, and so will we.

**C: Thank You, Jesus, for amazing grace and comforting hope.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Lord Jesus, our risen Savior, today we gratefully stand before the empty tomb where you destroyed our most fearsome enemy and removed the shroud of death forever. Remove all doubts and fears from our hearts and raise us to a new life of firmer faith, forgiven freshness, and humble service, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C: In your saving name we pray. Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

**Colossians 3:1-4**

*The power of baptism comes from the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. So Christ's Easter is really our Easter, too. Our spiritual resurrection creates a new reality for us who are bound for glory.*

<sup>3</sup> Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

### SECOND LESSON

**Revelation 19:11-16**

*Stand in awe as John describes the risen Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords.*

<sup>11</sup> I saw heaven standing open, and there was a white horse! Its rider is called Faithful and True, and he judges and makes war in righteousness. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like blazing flames, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him, which no one knows except he himself. <sup>13</sup> He is also clothed in a garment that had been dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. <sup>14</sup> The armies in heaven, which were clothed with white, clean, fine linen, were following him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will shepherd them with an iron staff. He himself is going to trample the winepress of the fierce anger of the Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> On his garment and on his thigh this name is written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON PRAISE

**Christ Arose**

**Low in the grave He lay, Jesus, my Savior!**

**Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!**

**Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,**

**He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign.**

**He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior!**

**Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus, my Lord!**

**Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,**

**He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign.**

**He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior!**

**He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!**

**Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,  
He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Hallelujah! Christ arose!  
Hallelujah! Christ arose!  
Hallelujah! Christ arose!  
Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

**Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,  
He arose a victor from the dark domain And He lives forever with His saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!  
Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

## **SERMON**

## **Matthew 28:1-10**

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. <sup>7</sup>Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' See, I have told you!"

<sup>8</sup>They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!"

They approached, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

<sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers that they should go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

### **Visit the Empty Tomb of King Jesus**

*Stoop to...*

*Sit to...*

*Bow to...*

*Run to...*

How great the chasm that lay between us.  
How high the mountain I could not climb.  
In desperation, I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night.

Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul.  
The work is finished, the end is written—  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame.

The cross has spoken, I am forgiven.  
The King of kings calls me His own.  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever—  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.  
You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name—  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.  
Your buried body began to breathe.  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.  
Your buried body began to breathe.  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me.  
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.  
You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name—  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.  
God, You are my living hope!

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord Jesus, Conqueror of sin, Satan, and the grave, Guarantee of eternal life: Praise be to you for laying down your life in perfect payment for our sin! With sorrowful, repentant hearts we watched the soldiers nail you to the cross on Friday.

**C: We heard your words of love and forgiveness that you spoke from the cross.**

M: We watched as they carried your limp body into the tomb. And we know it was because of our sin and self-love; our coldness to your gracious call; our dependence on our own decency and deeds; our indifference toward your word and idleness in your work; our forgetfulness and unfaithfulness; and their bitter curse that you were put to death.

**C: Friday we cried. Today we rejoice! You have turned our tears of sorrow into tears of joy!**

M: If sin and doubt tend to make us question either your own triumph over the grave or the resurrection of our own bodies, forgive our wavering weakness!

**C: Your tomb is empty, but your promises are not! You rose in the midst of our mourning and gave us fullness of life. You have changed our lives!**

M: Because you loved us with an eternal love, and because you purchased us with your own holy blood, and because you arose this day to live forever,

**C: We offer ourselves to you this day, confessing that our bodies and souls belong to you, and that we share in the hope of eternal life only through faith in you.**

M: Risen Savior, grant us forgiveness of all our sins; fill our hearts with faith in your mercy; awaken in us lasting love of your Word; fight with us our battles against temptation; use us as your ambassadors to those who know you not; make us faithful in every good work and word; and keep us faithful unto death.

**C: Keep us faithful unto death, that we also may inherit the crown of eternal life. Amen and alleluia!**

M: Bless us through the message of victory in Jesus and grant us the joy of living in the light of truth. Hear us as we also join and pray:

**C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with his favor ☩ and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING PRAISE

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Jesus Shall Reign)

I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living Head.

He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.  
He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.

He lives triumphant from the grave;  
He lives, eternally to save.  
He lives, all glorious in the sky;  
He lives exalted there on high.

He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.  
He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.

He lives to bless me with His love;  
He lives to plead for me above.  
He lives my hungry soul to feed;  
He lives to help in time of need.

He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.  
He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.

He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh the sweet joy this sentence gives,  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

He reigns, He reigns, Jesus shall reign.  
He reigns, He reigns,

Jesus shall reign. Amen! Jesus shall reign. Amen!  
Jesus shall reign. Amen! Jesus shall reign. Amen!

## OFFERINGS

The members of this congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Please recognize that it is vital for the continued ministry we carry out together to continue to support our ministry with regular giving, even while we worship together in our homes. *Please see our Love Notes for more information on ways to give your offerings.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our songs of praise today are accompanied by **Eternal Praise**,  
one of our congregation's own musical groups.

Liturgist: Pastor Dave Pries  
Preacher: Pastor Dave Backus

### **Christ the Lord is Risen Today (He's Alive)**

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### **Christ Arose**

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### **Living Hope**

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### **I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Jesus Shall Reign)**

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### **Holy Bible**

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