



Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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.

SEASON OF EASTER 2020

Our worship series during the season of Easter is called “Witness.” We will follow the appointed lectionary readings from the book of Acts and see how the disciples carried out the instructions Jesus gave them to be his witnesses, through the power of the Holy Spirit. They were eyewitnesses of the resurrection. Not even the threat of death could stop them from faithfully witnessing to others. Our prayer is that through this worship series, we will be encouraged and empowered to witness to the people around us, starting right here where we live, and reaching out to the ends of the earth. We’ll see where our witnessing power comes from, get practical advice on how to share Christ, and get an idea of what to expect when we proclaim the wonderful Easter message of the risen Savior. God bless you as you witness!



TODAY’S FOCUS

Last Sunday we saw Jesus himself appear resurrected to the two Marys. This week we look to two more resurrection appearances, and we hear twice from Peter, one of the eyewitnesses of those appearances. In the 1 Peter lesson today, Peter reminds us that just because we are not eyewitnesses does not mean we have no joy or cannot witness to others. In today’s sermon, we will be brought to the miraculous Pentecost sermon of Peter as we continue to be moved by the power of the resurrection and the joy of sharing it with others.

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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Like the Golden Sun Ascending

Christian Worship #147



1 Like the gold - en sun as - cend - ing, Break - ing
2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to
3 You have died for my trans - gres - sion; All my
4 Grant me grace, O bless - ed Sav - ior, And your
5 For the joy your ad - vent gave me, For your



through the gloom of night, On the earth its glo - ry
you, O Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er
sins on you were laid. You have won for me sal -
Ho - ly Spir - it send That my life and my be -
gos - pel's great re - ward, For your bap - tism which has



spend - ing So that dark - ness takes to flight,
o'er us, You have con - quered in the strife.
va - tion; On the cross my debt was paid.
hav - ior May be pleas - ing to the end,
saved me, For your sup - per and your Word,



Thus my Je - sus from the grave And death's dis - mal,
Thanks be - cause you did a - rise And have o - pened
From the grave I shall a - rise And shall meet you
That I may not fall a - gain In - to death's grim
For your death, the bit - ter scorn, For your res - ur -



dread - ful cave Rose tri - um - phant Eas - ter
par - a - dise! None can ful - ly sing the
in the skies. Death it - self is tran - si -
pit and pain, Whence by grace you have re -
rec - tion morn: Lord, I thank you and ex -



morn - ing At the ear - ly pur - ple dawn - ing.
glo - ry Of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.
to - ry; I shall lift my head in glo - ry.
rieved me And from which you have re - lieved me.
tol you, And in heav'n I shall be - hold you.

INVOCATION

Based on today's Scripture Lessons

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

M: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

C: Whose mercy has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

M: Stop doubting and believe!

C: Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet believe.

M: Peace be with you.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: To you, O Lord – Father, Son + and Holy Spirit – I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God.

C: For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me. Look upon my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins. Remember not the sins of my youth, and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O Lord. Remember your great mercy and love, O Lord, for they are from of old.

ABSOLUTION

M: All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful. Good and upright is the Lord, and he instructs sinners in his ways. No one whose hope is in him will ever be put to shame. Therefore, in response to your confession, I assure you of God's mercy, and proclaim God's grace to you. Be of good cheer, for your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ + our Lord and Savior.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O risen Savior, we are grateful that you appeared to so many people after your resurrection, not only to prove that you have truly risen from the dead, but to comfort your followers and prepare them to be witnesses of your salvation. Come and comfort us today through the Gospel so that we also may be faithful witnesses of your love to all those around us.

C: We praise you, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, our God and Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Peter 1:3-9

The resurrection of Christ gives us new birth into a living hope. Although Jesus is not visible to our physical eyesight, faith fills us with joy and confidence in him, nonetheless. Our faith is precious, for by it, God continues to lead us through this life, even through trials and suffering, to our heavenly goal.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.



GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

Thomas was blessed. He could see Jesus' hands, feet, and side. He could reach out and touch them. We are just as blessed for we can see and touch in faith. As our Lord says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jesus' Powerful Resurrection

By: Hands 2 Grow

HYMN

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

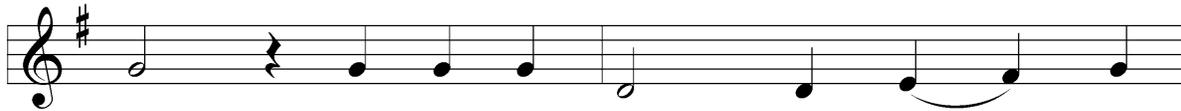
Christian Worship Supplement #720



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong
 2 No son of man could con - quer
 3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came
 4 It was a strange and dread - ful



bands For our of - fens - es giv -
 death, Such ru - in sin had wrought
 down, His peo - ple to de - liv -
 strife When life and death con - tend -



en; But now at God's right hand he
 us. No in - no - cence was found on
 er; De - stroy - ing sin, he took the
 ed. The vic - to - ry re - mained with



stands And brings us life from heav -
 earth, And there - fore death had brought
 crown From death's pale brow for - ev -
 life; The reign of death was end -



en. There - fore let us joy - ful be
 us In - to bond - age from of old
 er. Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;
 ed. Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says



And sing to God right thank - ful -
 And ev - er grew more strong and
 An emp - ty form a - lone re -
 That death is swal - lowed up by



ly Loud songs of al - le - lu -
 bold And held us as its cap -
 mains; Its sting is lost for - ev -
 death. Its sting is lost for - ev -



ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tive. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 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!

6 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!



¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them: “Men of Judea, and all you residents of Jerusalem, understand this, and listen closely to my words.

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³This man, who was handed over by God’s set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵“Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. ²⁶Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced. My flesh also will rest in hope, ²⁷because you will not abandon my life to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. ²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life. You will fill me with joy in your presence.

²⁹“Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³²“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.”

Easter Facts from an Eyewitness

From Peter we learn:

God planned it

Scriptures promised it

Peter experienced it

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son

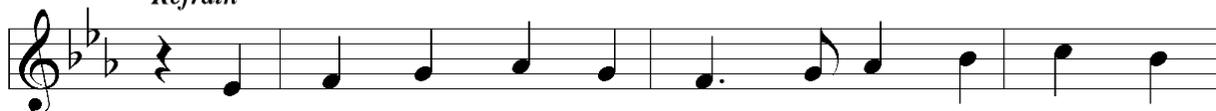


sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
 riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
 slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row.
 My pass - ing soul de - liv - er.
 Shall wake the dead in num - ber.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three - day



pris - on, Our faith had been in vain: But



now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



ris - en; But now is Christ a - ris - en.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, our resurrected and ever-living Lord: We praise you for removing every reason to doubt your promises about the resurrection to eternal life.

C: Praise and thanks to you for overcoming death and the grave.

M: Give each of us the firm assurance of faith and give us boldness to be your faithful witnesses of all that you have done for the salvation of the world.

C: Use us to bring the message of Easter triumph to all people.

M: With all our souls we thank you that the grave is not the end, and that the decay of the body is not the final chapter in human destiny.

C: We praise you for life – new, fresh, and eternal – with you.

M: We live in a scientific age, O Lord, and we like to see tangible evidence to support what we believe.

C: By your trustworthy, divinely inspired, and holy Word, give us a faith that is confident in the truth of your Son's physical resurrection from the dead.

M: Guide our nation's leaders in dealing with our national and international problems. Help them to make decisions that will preserve peace and human dignity, as well as protect the precious freedoms which we enjoy.

C: Bless all of us with gratitude for your blessings, peace in our forgiveness, and contentment in the work which you have given us.

M: In your compassion, and in accord with your perfect timing, heal the bodies of those who are recovering from surgery. Comfort all who grieve the loss of a loved one through the forgiveness of sins and the hope of a resurrection to eternal life.

Lord, teach us to pray, even as you taught your first disciples to 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: May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

C: 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

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Dave Pries
Scripture Reader: Brian Rasmussen
Hymn Singers: David and Louis Scheelk
Clay and Johanna Funk
Pastor Dave and Greta Backus
Accompanist: Ben Rusch

Special thanks: to Jeremiah Wallander for assisting with today's sermon as the Apostle Peter. Jeremiah is finishing his first year at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. How special it is for us to have a son of our congregation serve us with God's Word. Jeremiah and his wife, Kelli, live in Watertown on the campus of Luther Preparatory School where Kelli serves as a tutor.

Like the Golden Sun Ascending

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703, abr.; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt. WERDE MUNTER Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667 87 87 77 88 Setting © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. One License #A-703840

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt. NORTH RIDGE Tune, Setting: Kermit Moldenhauer, b. 1949 © 2005 Kermit Moldenhauer. 87 87 78 744 All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-703840

This Joyful Eastertide

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934 VRUECHTEN Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684 67 67 with Refrain Setting © 1969 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-703840

Holy Bible

The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2018 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.
www.wartburgproject.org

CONTACT US

Dave Pries, Pastor
920.285.1068
Pastor.Pries@eternal-love.org

Dave Backus, Pastor
920.716.7987
Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org

Kara Krull, Wee Love Director & Teacher
920.858.3933
Kara.Krull@eternal-love.org

Rebecca Fleming, Office Manager
920.749.9744
Office.Manager@eternal-love.org



ETERNAL-LOVE.ORG



WEE-LOVE.ORG