



DEATH HAS LOST ITS STING

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 20, 2025

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's *eternal love* for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting, will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

Restrooms: are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.

Nursery: We encourage families to worship together. If an adult needs to step out of the chapel briefly with a child, the nursery is provided just outside the chapel near the restrooms.

For Kids: Activity sheets for young children are available on the bulletin table. Small bags with quiet activity items hang near the table.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP SERIES: BECAUSE HE LIVES

In this season of Easter, it is good we review the details: who, when, where. However, we do ourselves a disservice if we simply recall the historic details of Easter without thinking long and hard about Easter's significance. Jesus won! That means something! It is our privilege and pleasure to use the fifty days of Easter to discuss this fact: because he lives, not only is our eternity secure, but we have abundant resources to face the present.

TODAY'S THEME: DEATH HAS LOST ITS STING

Death can sting in many ways. It can cast a shadow over every joyful moment of life, guaranteeing that joy won't last. Death can separate loved ones. Death can instill fear of what comes next...a reckoning and judgment. Yes, death can sting in many ways.

Note that word *can*. **Because he lives, death has lost its sting** for those who put their faith in the living Lord. Jesus' resurrection is proof that his death paid for all our sin. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. Our Christian loved ones who have passed are not lost. We will see them again. Christ's resurrection means we will rise to a world of incomprehensible and unending joy. Death remains unnatural. But Christ has defeated death. So, while death may still cause tears, death does not cause dread. Because he lives, death has lost its sting.

HYMN

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

The congregation sings stanzas 1 and 4. The choir sings stanzas 2 and 3.

The congregation joins in on the alleluias for stanza 3.

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!

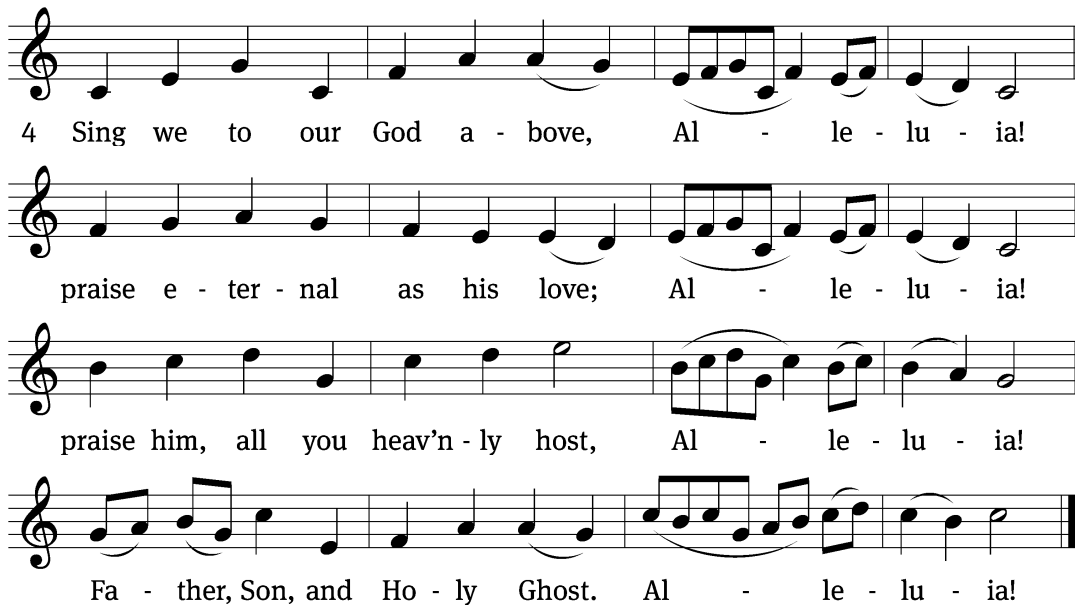
who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!

2 *Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

3 *But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

STAND FOR STANZA FOUR



4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

EASTER DIALOGUE

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Jesus Christ was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

***Women:* Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God.**

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

***Men:* In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade.

This inheritance is kept in heaven for us.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in him will live, even though they die.

***Women:* And those who live by believing in him will never die.**

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

***Men:* I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another.**

Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

When Christ, who is our life, appears, we will appear with him in glory.

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

He is not here; he has risen!

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



HYMN

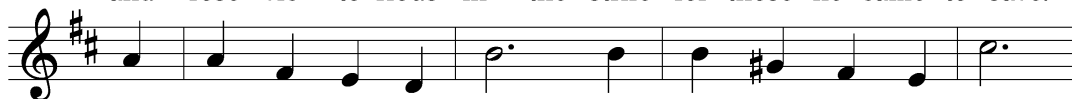
511 Crown Him with Many Crowns, sts. 1, 3



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
His glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,



and hail him as thy match-less King thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.
who died e - ter - nal life to bring and lives that death may die.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

*The LORD has taken away our shame.
He has destroyed the shroud of death.
He has promised us an eternal feast of joy.*

⁶On this mountain
the LORD of Armies will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food,
a banquet of aged wines,
with the best cuts of meat,
and with the finest wines.

⁷On this mountain
he will destroy the shroud that covers all peoples,
the burial cloth stretched over all nations.

⁸He has swallowed up death forever!
The LORD God will wipe away the tears from every face.
He will take away the shame of his people throughout the earth.
For the LORD has spoken.

⁹On that day it will be said,
“Look, here is our God!
We waited for him, and he saved us!
This is the LORD!
We waited for him.
Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation!”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



HYMN

440 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands, sts. 1, 3

The minister sings stanza one. The congregation sings stanza 3.

1 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, alleluia!

3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came down, his peo - ple
to de - liv - er; de - stroy - ing sin, he took the
crown from death's pale brow for - ev - er.
Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns; an emp - ty
form a - lone re - mains; its sting is
lost for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: '3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came down, his peo - ple'. The second staff continues: 'to de - liv - er; de - stroy - ing sin, he took the'. The third staff continues: 'crown from death's pale brow for - ev - er.'. The fourth staff continues: 'Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns; an emp - ty'. The fifth staff continues: 'form a - lone re - mains; its sting is'. The sixth staff concludes with: 'lost for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The score uses various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the sixth staff.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:51–57

Christ is risen, so death has lost its sting.

⁵¹Look, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴But once this perishable body has put on imperishability, and this mortal body has put on immortality, then what is written will be fulfilled:

Death is swallowed up in victory.*

⁵⁵Death, where is your sting?

Grave, where is your victory?†

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



“I am the *Alpha* and the *Omega*, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” (Rev. 22:13)

“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last—the Living One. I was dead and, see, I am alive forever and ever! I also hold the keys of death and hell.” (Rev. 1:17–18).

* Isaiah 25:8

† Hosea 13:14

HYMN

440 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands, sts. 4, 6

The cantor sings stanza four. The congregation sings stanza 6.

4 *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 saith
that death is swallowed up by death;
disgraced, it lies defeated.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

6 So let us keep the fes - ti - val to which the
Lord in - vites us; Christ is him - self the joy of
all, the sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal
sun - shine to our hearts; the night of
sin is end - ed. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

Luke 24:1–12

The account of Christ's Resurrection victory.

¹On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. ²They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. ³When they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men stood by them in dazzling clothing. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed down with their faces to the ground.

The men said to them, “Why are you looking for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here, but has been raised! Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee ⁷that the Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again?” ⁸Then they remembered his words.

⁹When they returned from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. ¹¹Yet these words seemed to them like nonsense, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over to look in, he saw only the strips of linen cloth. He went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

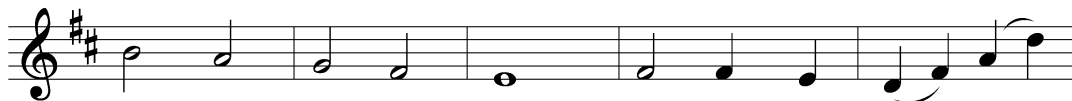
Young children are invited to the front for a brief devotion.

HYMN OF THE DAY

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives, sts. 1, 5-8



All: I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
Women: He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

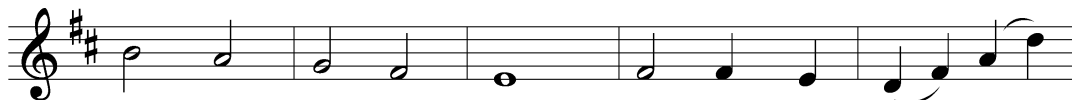


once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

Choir: *He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 he lives and loves me to the end;
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
 he lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.*



Men: He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; he lives, and
All: He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my



I shall con - quer death; he lives my man - sion
 Je - sus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this



to pre - pare; he lives to bring me safe - ly there.
 sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Death Has Lost Its Sting

STAND

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.**

BE SEATED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy this day, for you have risen and conquered the grave.
Imprint the message of victory on our hearts, and implant it in our minds.

Through the good news of your resurrection, renew our hope and revive our faith.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love.

Direct their eyes to your empty tomb.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts.

Let the message of your resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts.

Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your mercy, heal those who are sick, receiving treatment for illness, recovering from illness or surgery, or hurting in body or mind.

Renew in them the assurance of receiving glorified bodies like yours at the resurrection on the Last Day.

Special prayers or intercessions may follow.

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and the feast of your sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

Amen.

OFFERING

The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. If being here today was a blessing to you and you would like to support our ministry, you can scan here and enter your phone number or email address to donate. (Members, please use a phone number or email address that is currently on file with the church).



During this time, we ask that everyone take part in completing the worship register. Please fill in the requested information and pass the booklet to the end of the row. Thank you!

THE SACRAMENT

STAND

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

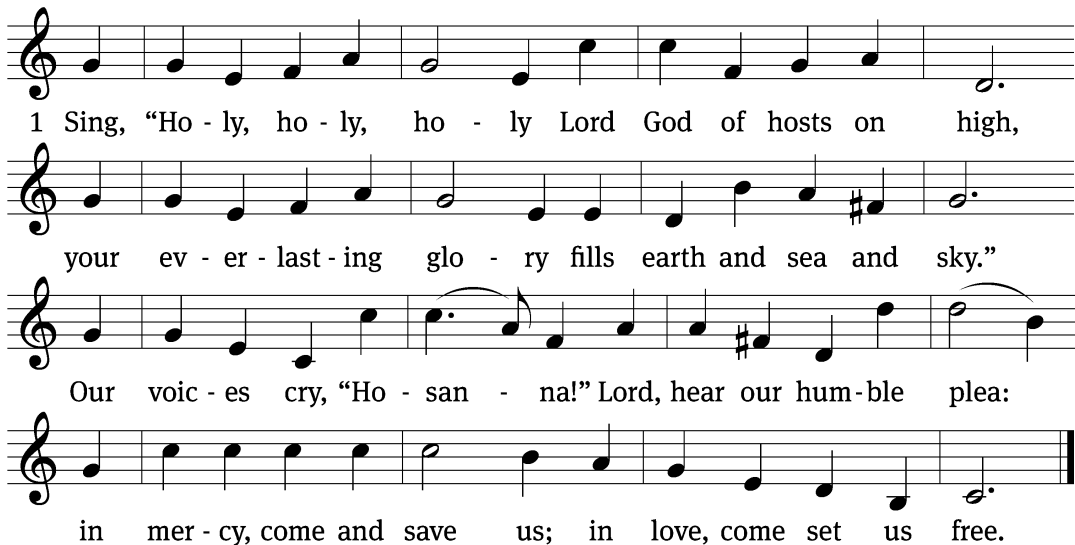
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

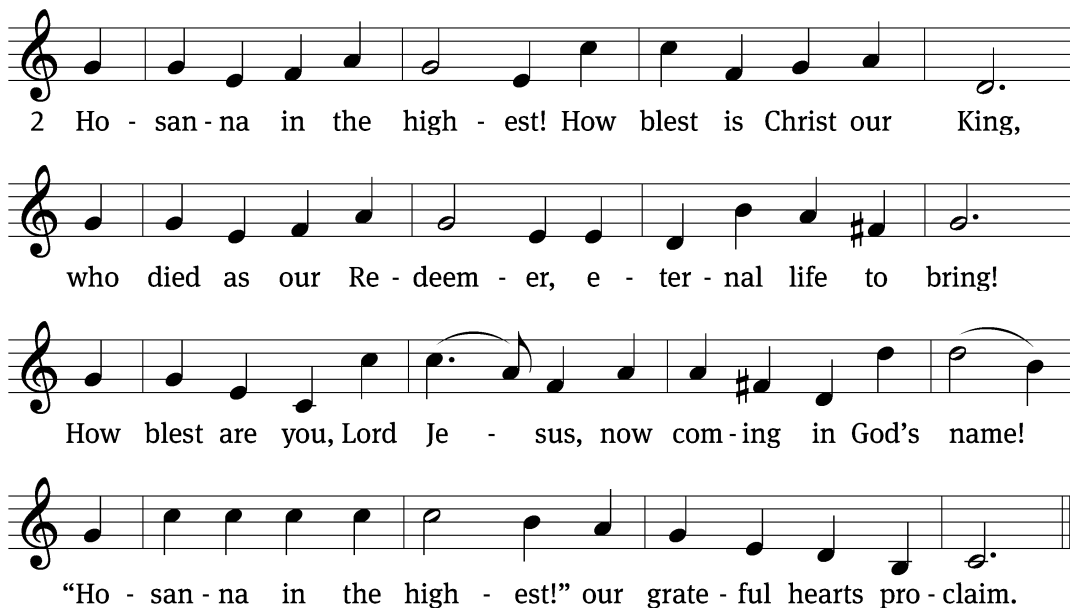
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.



2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

For our guests: Eternal Love Lutheran Church practices close communion. We welcome congregational members and those in fellowship with our national church body to receive the sacrament with us today. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe or about holy communion, please speak with our pastor.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

510 In Christ Alone, sts. 1-3

1 In Christ a-lone my hope is found; he is my
2 In Christ a-lone, who took on flesh, full-ness of
3 There in the ground his bod-y lay, light of the

light, my strength, my song; this cor-ner-stone, this sol-id
God in help-less babe; this gift of love and right-eous-
world by dark-ness slain; then burst-ing forth in glo-rious

ground, firm through the fierc-est drought and storm.
ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
day, up from the grave he rose a-gain!

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
Till on that cross as Je-sus died, the wrath of
And as he stands in vic-to-ry, sin's curse has

stilled, when striv-ings cease! My com-fort-er, my all in
God was sat-is-fied; for ev-'ry sin on him was
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is

all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
mine, bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.

470 Like the Golden Sun Ascending, sts. 1-3



1 Like the gold - en sun as - cend - ing, break - ing through the
 2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to you, O
 3 You have died for my trans - gres - sion, all my sins on
 gloom of night, on the earth its glo - ry spend - ing so that
 Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er o'er us, you have
 you were laid. You have won for me sal - va - tion, on the
 dark - ness takes to flight, thus my Je - sus from the
 con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause you did a -
 cross my debt was paid. From the grave I shall a -
 grave and death's dis - mal, dread - ful cave rose tri -
 rise and have o - pened par - a - dise! None can
 rise and shall meet you in the skies. Death it -
 um - phant Eas - ter morn - ing at the ear - ly pur - ple dawn - ing.
 ful - ly sing the glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.
 self is tran - si - to - ry; I shall lift my head in glo - ry.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN

510 In Christ Alone, st. 4



4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Please accept an Easter devotional booklet as our gift to you and your family as you leave today.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Minister: Pastor Dave Backus

Ushers: Neil Jeske (7:30), Shane LaBarge (10:00)

Lectors: Mike King (7:30), Dave Payne (10:00)

Accompanist: Ben Rusch

Cantor: Bethany Kempfert

Choir: Clay Funk

Thank you to the many additional individuals who served to make today a special blessing!

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

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511 Crown Him with Many Crowns

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Holy, Holy, Holy 1027 Sanctus (Brit) - LANCASHIRE

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Holy Bible

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CONTACT US

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



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