
APRIL 14, 2024 • 8:30 AM

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather Christ is risen! Blessings to you this day of worship – the day we celebrate Christ's Resurrection. The Bible teaches many things, and all are important. But the Epistle today from 1 Corinthians 15 speaks about what is of first importance: that Christ died for our sins, that He was buried, and that He has been raised, in accordance with the Scriptures. As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, we focus on those things of first importance.

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds, In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph; Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

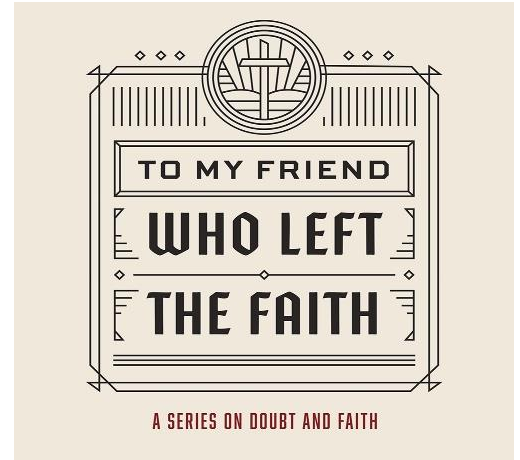
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OPENING SENTENCES

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.



OPENING SENTENCES *(cont.)*

P He died for our sins,

C according to the Scriptures.

P He was buried in the tomb,

C according to the definite plan of God.

P He rose from the dead

C and appeared to many.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If Christ had not been raised from the dead, we would still be dead in our trespasses and sins. A sobering thought by St. Paul, indeed. So, let us consider the seriousness our sinfulness but let's also do that in light of God's great resurrection victory in Christ.

[Silence for reflection.]

P Heavenly Father,

C we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We confess our shameful thoughts about our leaders, enemies, and strangers. We confess our inappropriate words spoken to our families, friends, and colleagues. We confess our inappropriate actions toward our neighbors. For the sake of the risen Christ, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we follow in His footsteps both now and when He returns in glory. Amen.

P If Christ had not been raised from the dead, we would still be dead in our trespasses and sins, but Christ rose from the grave, and death no longer has dominion over Him! God did this in accordance with the Scriptures to forgive our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I forgive your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

GREETING

HYMN

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Heavenly Father, You have given us hope for life beyond death in the resurrection of Your Son. Help us focus our eyes on the things of first importance: the death and resurrection of Jesus for our forgiveness, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

(He will swallow up death forever.)

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
He has a - ris - en this world to save.
Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain



Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

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EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

(Paul delivers to the Corinthians the things of first importance.)

15 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

2 Timothy 1:10b

P Alleluia. Christ Jesus abolished death

C and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36–49

(The disciples are witnesses of the risen Lord.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!"³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit.³⁸ And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated – Children are dismissed for Children's Church (CC).

MESSAGE HYMN

533 *Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure*

- 1 Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
Godhead, humanity, union supernal,
O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!
Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!
- 2 Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!
- 3 Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!



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MESSAGE

CREED

953 *We All Believe in One True God*



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

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OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

P Christ is risen,

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

C 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.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

EASTER AFFIRMATION

P Go in peace as you serve our living Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to
8 He lives, all glo - ry to His name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my
Je - sus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.
sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

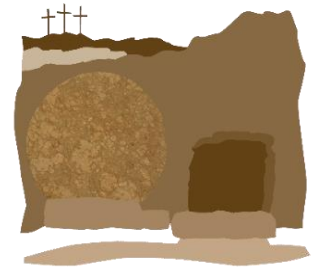
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DISMISSAL

Into the world knowing and that our Redeemer lives...

A HUGE “Thank you” to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Scott Hill
Children’s Message	Hailey Tanczer	Organist	Carol Trumbo
Elder	Bob Remmele	Acolyte	Lillian Plourde



Acknowledgments

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