

Easter Service

APRIL 4—2021



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Preacher: Pastor Galen Riediger



GOSPEL: John 20:1-9

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she left and ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," she told them, "and we don't know where they put him!" ³So Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first. ⁵Bending over, he saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter, who was following him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there. ⁷The cloth that had been on Jesus' head was not lying with the linen cloths, but was folded up in a separate place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who arrived at the tomb first, also entered. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not yet understand the Scripture that he must rise from the dead.)

M: Despite all that our Lord has said to us, we are often slow to believe. Our sinful nature shows itself in all we do, say and think. Like Jesus' first disciples, our sin keeps us from fully rejoicing in the glory of this day.

M: When I kept silent

C: my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

M: For day and night

C: your hand was heavy upon me

M: my strength was sapped

C: as in the heat of summer.

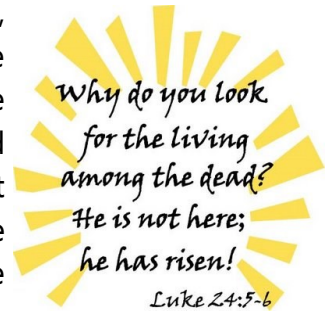
M: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

C: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin." (Psalm 32:3-5)



GOSPEL: John 20: 10-18

¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood outside facing the tomb, weeping. As she wept, she bent over, looking into the tomb. ¹²She saw two angels in white clothes sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They asked her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She told them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have laid him." ¹⁴After she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not know it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you carried him off, tell me where you laid him, and I will get him." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and replied in Aramaic, "*Rabboni!*" (which means, "Teacher"). ¹⁷Jesus told her, "Do not continue to cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father—to my God and your God.' " ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" She also told them the things he said to her.



HYMN: Morning Breaks Upon the Tomb.....159



1. Morning breaks upon the tomb; Jesus scatters all it's gloom.
Day of triumph through the skies, See the glorious Savior rise.
2. You who are of death afraid, Triumph in the scattered shade.
Drive your anxious cares away; See the place where Jesus lay.
3. Christian, dry your flowing tears; Chase your unbelieving fears.
Look on his deserted grave; Doubt no more his power to save.

M: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory!

C: Thanks be to God!

M: Jesus is God's Son, our Savior!

C: He is risen!

M: Jesus kept every promise!

C: He is risen!

M: Jesus has removed your sin!

C: He is risen!

M: Jesus guarantees your resurrection to life in heaven!

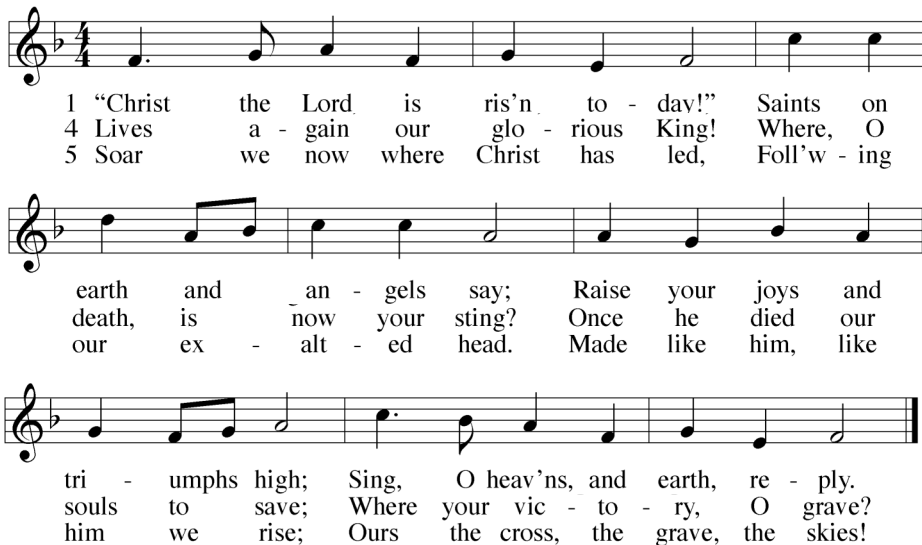
C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!



HYMN

149

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O
5 Soar we now where Christ has led, Foll'w - ing

earth and an - gels say; Raise your joys and
death, is now your sting? Once he died our
our ex - alt - ed head. Made like him, like

tri - umphs high; Sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
souls to save; Where your vic - to - ry, O grave?
him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies!

Prayer of the Day

M: O God, you made the dawn of this most holy day shine with the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Grant that we who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen



FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 12:1-6

In that day you will say: I will give thanks to you, LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger has turned away, and you comfort me. ²Surely God is my salvation. I will trust him and will not be afraid, because Yah, the LORD, is my strength and song, and he has become my salvation. ³Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴In that day you will say: Give thanks to the LORD! Proclaim his name. Declare among the peoples what he has done. Proclaim that his name is exalted! ⁵Sing to the LORD, for he has done amazing things! Let this be known in all the earth! ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, daughter of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is great among you!

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 30



Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Refrain

To you, O LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy:

“Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;
O LORD, be my help.”

You turned my wailing into dancing,
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain



SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57

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!

HYMN OF THE DAY: 163

Welcome, Happy Morning



1 "Wel-come, hap - py morn - ing!" Age to age shall say;
2 Mak - er and Re - deem - er, Life and Health of all,
3 He, of life the au - thor, Death did un - der - go,
4 Free the souls long pris - oned, Bound with Sa - tan's chain;



"Hell to - day is van - quished; Heav'n is won to - day!"
God from heav'n be - hold - ing Hu - man na - ture's fall,
Trod the path of dark - ness, Sav - ing strength to show.
All that now is fall - en Raise to life a - gain.



Lo, the Dead is liv - ing, God for - ev - er - more!
Of the Fa - ther's God - head You, the on - ly Son,
Come, then, True and Faith - ful, Now ful - fill your word;
Show your face in bright - ness; Shine in ev - 'ry land



Him, their true Cre - a - tor, All his works a - dore.
Man-kind to de - liv - er Man-hood did put on.
This is your third morn - ing— Rise, O bur - ied Lord!
As in E - den's gar - den When the world be - gan.

Refrain



"Wel-come, hap - py morn - ing!" Age to age shall say;



"Hell to - day is van - quished; Heav'n is won to - day!"

SERMON 1 CORINTHIANS 15:55-57

PEACE!

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Augsburg Confession : ARTICLE III.
[THE SON OF GOD]

M: Our churches teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, assumed the human nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary. So there are two natures - the divine and the human - inseparably joined in one person.

C: There is one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried.

M: He did this to reconcile the Father to us and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of mankind.

C: He also descended into hell, and truly rose again on the third day. Afterward, he ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father.

M: There he forever reigns and has dominion over all creatures. He sanctifies those who believe in him, by sending the Holy Spirit into their hearts to rule, comfort, and make them alive. He defends them against the devil and the power of sin.

C: The same Christ will openly come again to judge the living and the dead, and so forth, according to the Apostles' Creed.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: **Alleluia!**

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: **We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.**

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: **He is risen!**

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: **He is risen indeed!**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.**

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

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HYMN

152

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 -
3 He lives to bless me with his love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save. He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove. He lives, my hun - gry
guide me with his eye. He lives to com - fort

once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing Head!
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: O Lord, our risen and glorious Savior, you have brought us safety to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen *(sung)* 1999 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission.

CLOSING HYMN

152

I Know that My Redeemer Lives



5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to



wipe a - way my tears. He lives to calm my



trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6 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. | 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there. |
|--|---|

8 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!"

