

AS WE GATHER

Jesus compels us to ponder the unthinkable, the amazing—to embrace a cataclysmic event that destroys death and literally makes all things new. Resurrection! Christ’s brutal coronation and crucifixion ensures that the entire cosmos, the heavens and the earth, are renewed—in resurrection! Chills soar through our souls at the very thought of it all. In confident faith we are bold to confess that king Jesus unleashes His incomparable reign, crushing the evil aggression of principalities, authorities, and even Satan himself. Unrelenting shouts and songs of alleluia shape the church today because of resurrection. Setting aside all timidity, fear, and anxiety, the church acclaim “Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” Resurrection confidence in Jesus unites our speech and our song on this day, as we await—with the same confidence—our own day of resurrection, with all the saints in glory.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD - EASTER

April 20, 2025

PRELUDE, BELLS, WELCOME

EASTER GREETING OF FAITH

P Jesus is Risen!

C **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Amen!**

P Jesus is Risen!

C **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Amen!**

P Jesus is Risen!

C **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! AMEN!**

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer" - Adult Choir

Words: James McGranahan

Music: Philip P. Bliss

Arranged: Cindy Berry

Words: Public domain

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INVOCATION

P Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

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

P In the name of the Father—who creates and re-creates new life in the kingdom of resurrection,

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

P and of + Jesus—who redeems and resurrects new life in the kingdom of resurrection,

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

P and of the Holy Spirit—who sanctifies and breathes new life in the kingdom of resurrection.

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sins before God our Father, and Christ, our risen King!

C **Resurrected Lord and Savior, we confess before You that our Easter faith is meager; we have not acted decisively in sharing Your love. Our forgiveness for others is tepid. We fail to be gracious in conflict and forget that all believers belong to You—the crucified and risen Lord.**

Although we are undeserving, You have crowned us with resurrection certainty by Your life-changing grace and mercy. Death is destroyed. Easter life flourishes, now and forever!

- P Christ has died. We, too, shall die. Christ has risen. We, too, shall rise, because we are more than conquerors in and through Christ Jesus. Our eternal confidence and unwavering faith are in Him alone! Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.**

HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465

sts. 1, 4

- 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!
- 4 Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav’nly blessed sing:
“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!”
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesang, Koln, 1623; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003888

Music: Public domain

SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Alleluias sung from the refrain of *LSB 465*)

- P Let us pray.
O God, by faith in Jesus alone, we boldly confess, sing, and shout, “Jesus is risen.” He is our prayer;
He is our praise!
- C ***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- P You have overcome the powers of death and darkness. Divine grace, forgiveness, and eternal life
for all are made certain in Your resurrection. Jesus is our prayer; He is our praise!
- C ***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- P Let our sin be drowned daily in genuine repentance. Grant that we in faith wait patiently for our
own day of resurrection, when we will live with all the saints in Jesus’ overwhelming light and
unending feast. Jesus is our prayer; He is our praise!
- C ***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 65:17–25

"Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.

"Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed.

They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands.

They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them.

Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the Lord. (NIV)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (NIV)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:1–12

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?"

He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'

Then they remembered his words.

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened. (NIV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN “The Lamb” LSB 547

- 1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where’s the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain

4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain

5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

Text and music: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953–2023

Text, tune, and setting: © 1987 and 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: LSB
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SERMON “*Marveling at All Things Being Made New!*”

Text: Luke 24:1ff & Isaiah 65:17ff

OFFERING

“This Is the Feast” LSB 155

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P On this great celebration of the third day, when Jesus was raised from death to everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord.

C **We know that if we ask anything in Your name and according to Your will, You will not only hear our prayer but You promise to answer it.**

P Our risen Savior, before we ask anything of You, we lay before Your feet all our worship, adoration, praise, and thanksgiving.

C **You not only sacrificed Your life for our sins on the cross, but You defeated death itself on the third day. For this, we bow before You, offering our thanks, praise, and service to You.**

P We pause to remember the events of the third day:

C **The women at the tomb, Peter and John, the Emmaus road, the Upper Room.**

P In each case, You brought joy to those circumstances.

C **Wherever we find ourselves today, Lord, remind us of what You did in the resurrection and fill our hearts with Your joy. Lord, hear our prayer.**

P We remember before Your throne those whose joys are being stolen by the circumstances of life. We remember those sick and in need of Your care, [*especially . . .*].

C **We lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ before Your throne, trusting in our great heavenly physician to use doctors, nurses, medicines, and miracles, according to Your will, to bring healing and health to them. Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For those who struggle every day, Lord Jesus, show compassion on them;

C **Look with compassion on those struggling paycheck to paycheck; for the homeless, the ones living in poverty; and so many we have not named but are known to You, almighty God. Care for them as only You can. Lord, hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those who govern, both in our land and in others.

C **We pray for world leaders and all in authority, that they would be guided by Your Spirit. Lord, hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those who are imprisoned, and we remember those imprisoned for nothing more than their faith in Jesus.

C **As You showed grace to the thief on the cross, show Your grace to those imprisoned who do not know You. We ask protection for the ones persecuted for their faith. Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all our requests.

C **We pray these and all the prayers of our heart in the name of Jesus, risen on the third day, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever. 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.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly right and salutary that we should revel in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in all times and places, giving to You, Father, fervent thanksgiving for making the heavens and the earth renewed by Your grace and mercy. Let the Word of God made flesh continue to resurrect our wearied souls. Breathe the Spirit into us constant newness of life, dispelling grievous burdens and filling us with insight and faith to grasp the reality of resurrection. Join us in the company of the heavenly host and all the heirs of the resurrection—Jews, Gentiles, and all believers—that we may in truth and conviction praise You evermore and saying:

HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” LSB 457

st. 4

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–88

Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of the heavens and earth—made new! Your mercy is woven into the very words of Scripture and into the lives of the saints who confess Your holy name, and unrelentingly take hold of the resurrection as temporal and eternal truth. Grant that Your life-giving Word and Spirit invade our minds, our speech, and our hearts, that we may be credible witnesses of divine truth—Jesus alone was crucified, died, and raised to new life. By faith we claim this resurrection as our very own! That resurrection will usher us into eternity that we may share in the marriage feast of the Lamb that will have no ending. To You alone, O Father of all creation, Son of resurrection, and Spirit of joy, be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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 and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

HYMN "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461

- 1 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.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 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.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 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!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.

Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

HYMN “He’s Risen, He’s Risen” LSB 480

1 He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.

2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.

3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.

4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.

5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

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Music: Public domain

HYMN “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen” LSB 474

1 Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! Refrain

ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way,
Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread,
Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain

3 Jesus the vine,
We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain

4 Weeping, be gone;
Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
“O grave, be open!”
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain

5 City of God,
Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life,
Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922-87; setting: Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

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Tune: © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House; setting: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003888

HYMN “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” LSB 467

1 Awake, my heart, with gladness,
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.

2 The foe in triumph shouted
When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed,
His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
In glorious victory

He who is strong to save
Has triumphed o'er the grave.

- 3 This is a sight that gladdens—
What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son
In love for me has won.
- 4 Now hell, its prince, the devil,
Of all their pow'r are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil,
And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all its might
Cannot my soul affright;
It is a pow'rless form,
Howe'er it rave and storm.
- 5 The world against me rages,
Its fury I disdain;
Though bitter war it wages,
Its work is all in vain.
My heart from care is free,
No trouble troubles me.
Misfortune now is play,
And night is bright as day.
- 6 Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never,
Whate'er He passes through.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's grim thrall;
I follow Him through all.
- 7 He brings me to the portal
That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in script of gold:
"Who there My cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died
Shall here be glorified."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.

Tune: Johann Cruger. 1598-1662; setting: Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, risen Savior, that You have made all things new through Your resurrection. In this Holy Sacrament Your body and blood nourish us with forgiveness and increase our faith. In this Meal we join all the saints who have prophesied, witnessed, and proclaimed resurrection. Grant that this feast enjoins us to all things new in this time and eternity. Shaped by resurrection hope, joy, and life, grant that we boldly love one another through You, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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 ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

HYMN “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” LSB 466

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom. Refrain

ref Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;
Death’s fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

2 For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo;
And in its conquest His might did show. Refrain

3 The angel said to them, “Do not fear!
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;
Only the grave cloths are lying there.” Refrain

4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done;
Even the battle with sin is won.” Refrain

5 Christ has arisen; He sets us free;
Alleluia, to Him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. Refrain

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1938–2021; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010

Music: Tanzanian

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Music: Public domain

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