

# Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

# St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day – April 20, 2025

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning! Know that you are welcome here just as you are.

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshiping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.

During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.

At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:



You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Guest information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.

As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then prefilled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.

A playroom is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service.

This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child.

Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

### **PRELUDE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (ELW 365)



#### \*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us! We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning, you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

In your baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, We give you thanks, O God for in these waters, you promise welcome, forgiveness, and life everlasting, and you claim us as your beloved children.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Alleluia!

Let us sing for joy at God's victory over death!

### \*THIS IS THE FEAST



### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING: Acts 10:34–43

A reading from Acts.

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 118** Metrical Psalter



- 1. Give thanks for God is good, God's love is steadfast, sure; Let Israel confess, "God's love Forever will endure."
- 2. God is my strength and song,
  The Savior I have found;
  Now from the tents of all the just
  There comes triumphant sound:
- 3. I shall not die but live,
  And praise God with my breath;
  The Lord has punished me, but not
  Delivered me to death.
- 4. This is the Lord's own work
  And marvelous to see;
  The Lord has acted on this day,
  We praise God's victory.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

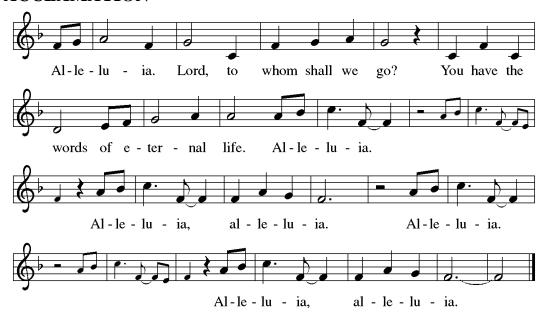
<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup> for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



# \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:1-12

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed 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, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁵ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁶ Then they remembered his words, ⁶ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR - Ain't No Rock

CHILDREN'S SERMON

**SERMON** 

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY For All the Faithful Women (ELW 419)

(Blue prayer cards are collected)



- For all the faith-ful wom en who served in days of old,
- 2 We praise the oth-er Mar y who came at East-er dawn
- 3 All praise to God the Fa ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told. and near the tomb did tar - ry, but found her Lord was gone. All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis-dom gave. As joy - ful - ly she saw him in res - ur - rec - tion light, With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit-ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save. may we by faith be - hold him, the day who ends all night. we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

#### \*NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. A brief silence for reflection

Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Ellen, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember in our hearts and all who suffer in any way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Living God, we carry in our hearts joys and concerns known only to you. We offer the prayer we bring into this space on this day (*blue prayer cards are read*) and all the prayers we do not yet have the words to speak. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.** 

### \*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

# And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.

CHOIR – That Easter Morn
The Empty Tomb

by Robert Cundick by Lauren Flauding

#### MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

### COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

You are invited to share a gift to support the ministries of this congregation. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Prayer requests, connection cards, and communion records are also collected at this time.

### OFFERTORY HYMN Now the Green Blade Rises (ELW 379)

Rise on verse 4



### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

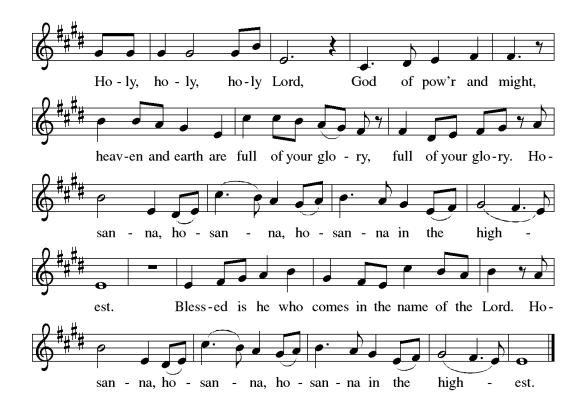
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God, and great is the majesty of your glory.

#### Alleluia!

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

### Alleluia!

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

#### Alleluia!

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Alleluia! Amen.** 

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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,

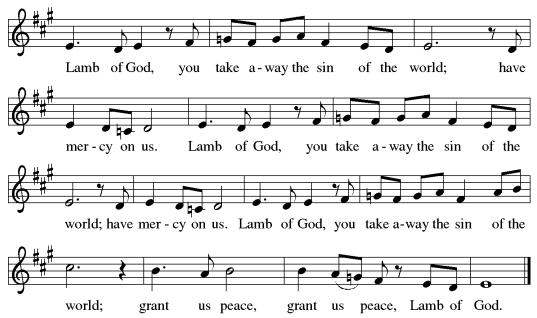
forever and ever. Amen

### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread, and you are invited to this meal of grace. Every one of us – with our doubts, our scars, our joy, our hopes, our questions – we are invited to God's table. For here we will be fed and given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy. Now come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. Taste and see that the Lord is good. This meal is for you.

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.

# **COMMUNION SONG** Lamb of God



# COMMUNION HYMN Thine Is the Glory (ELW 376)



- 1 Thine is the glo ry, ris en, con-qu'ring Son; end less is the
- 2 Lo, Je sus meets thee, ris en from the tomb! Lov ing ly he
- No more we doubt thee, glo rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! greets thee, scat-ters fear and gloom; out thee; aid us in our strife; An - gels in bright rai - ment let his church with glad - ness make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, hymns of tri - umph sing, through thy death - less love; kept the fold - ed grave - clothes for the Lord now liv - eth; bring us safe through Jor - dan

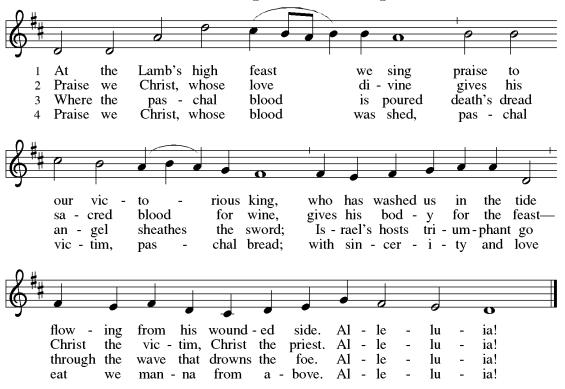


where thy bod - y lay. death hath lost its sting! to thy home a - bove.

Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring



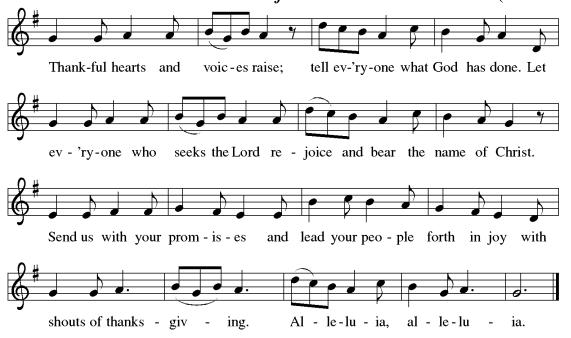
# COMMUNION HYMN At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (ELW 362)



### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace. **Amen** 

# \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (ELW 207)



### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### \*BLESSING

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

May the God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope

→ bless you now and always.

Alleluia! Amen.

# \*SENDING SONG This Joyful Eastertide (ELW 391)



### \*DISMISSAL

"And Jesus said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." *Matthew 16:15* 

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go forth in joy to love and serve the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: Denise H.

**Acolyte: Cate S.** 

Young Reader: Abby C. Offering: Abby C. & Ella N

Attendance last week: 96 + 4 zoom

### Notes for the day's texts:

Holy Week has hauled us through death, teaching us closely to follow Jesus as he prepared for his transfiguration on the cross. Baptism itself, during the dark hours of last night's Vigil, is another such foray. There is a death we die when we give ourselves wholly to God, and in the waters of baptism we united to Jesus in death to be finally and irretrievably pulled from the tomb of mortal life into God's dominion. In our community we know both the reality of death and the unshakable promise of the empty tomb. It is not wise to stray too far from these profound truths, and so on each Sunday we evoke the empowering experience of our hope in water, bread, and wine. The resurrection of Jesus has changed death. No longer can we look on death and see only death. Whether we whisper it in prayer before the darkness, or dive in to grasp hold of it and pull it forth like a man drowning, we proclaim, Christ is risen! Moreover, we are called to go forth with the women from the empty tomb to all the places of struggle, all the greened-up tombs our culture makes, there to witness to the power of God.

—Jeffrey A. Merkel

[Jeffrey A. Merkel, in Homilies for the Christian People, pp. 454-55.]

# **Today's Music**

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*. Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4, Music: J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708. Public Domain.

Psalm 118. Text: The New Metrical Psalter, Christopher L. Webber, © 2008. Music: FESTAL, William H. Walter, 1825–1893, Public Domain /.

For All the Faithful Women. Text: Herman Stuempfle Jr. 1923–2007, Music: Finnish Folk Tune. GIA Publications, Inc. / Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

Savior, Redeemer of My Soul. Text: Orson F Whitney, Music: Michael Bailey. © 2022 Michael Bailey

Now the Green Blade Rises. Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958, Music: French carol.

Oxford University Press (New York) / Public Domain.

Thine Is the Glory. Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939,

Music: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759. Public Domain.

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing. Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.,

Music: Bohemian Brethren, Kirchengeseng, 1566. Public Domain / CPH Publishing (SESAC).

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise. Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927. Augsburg Fortress.

This Joyful Eastertide. Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934,

Music: Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. hymnal version. Public Domain.

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