



# *The Resurrection*

of Our Savior, Jesus Christ

If in Christ we have hope in this life only,  
we are of all people most to be pitied.  
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:19-20, ESV

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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# THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD ~ EASTER SUNDAY

Resurrection—Fact or Fiction?

April 20, 2025

## AS WE GATHER

Welcome to the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus! His death for us has destroyed the power of sin, and His resurrection has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. May the songs and the words and the prayers of our service enable you to rejoice in the gifts of forgiveness and life in Christ which God wants all to have! (*If you are intending to receive the Lord's Supper during our service today, please take a moment to read through the Communion preparation information on page 5 of this bulletin.*)

## PRELUDE MUSIC

“Be Thou My Vision”

[Handbell Choir]

## CALL TO WORSHIP

“Christ Is Arisen”

[Vocal Solo]

*Christ is arisen from the grave's dark prison.  
So let our joy rise full and free; Christ our comfort true will be. Alleluia!  
Were Christ not arisen, then death were still our prison.  
Now, with Him to life restored, we praise the Father of our Lord. Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Now let our joy rise full and free;  
Christ our comfort true will be. Alleluia!*

## PROCESSIONAL SONG

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

LSB 457

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!  
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!  
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!  
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!**

## EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (*1 John 1:8*)

**All: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*1 John 1:9*)**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

### SONG OF THANKS

“There Is a Redeemer”

**There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.  
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.**

**Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.  
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.**

**When I stand in Glory, I will see His face;  
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.  
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.**

### † GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY †

#### EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

*(ESV page 1142)*

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

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:1-12

*(ESV page 1051)*

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**All: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them,

“Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup>He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” <sup>8</sup>And they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, <sup>11</sup>but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S TALK**

**LITTLE WORSHIP** (*Children from 5-10 years old are welcome to follow the Little Worship leaders for a worship time all their own during the sermon.*)

## **SONG OF PREPARATION**

“I Live”

**I live, I live because He is risen; I live, I live with pow’r over sin.  
I live, I live because He is risen; I live, I live to worship Him.  
Thank You, Jesus, thank You, Jesus; because You’re alive,  
Because You’re alive, because You’re alive, I live.**

**I live, I live because He is risen; I live, I live with pow’r over sin.  
I live, I live because He is risen; I live, I live to worship Him.  
Thank You, Jesus, thank You, Jesus; because You’re alive,  
Because You’re alive, because You’re alive, I live.**

## **SERMON**

“Resurrection—Fact or Fiction?”

*1 Corinthians 15:19-20*

*If Jesus did not rise from the dead . . . oops! Since He did, even death has no hold on us!*

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:19-20 (ESV page 1142)

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

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**OFFERING** (*You are invited to place your financial gifts to the Lord in the offering plates as they are passed through the pews. You can also give your one-time or recurring gifts to the Lord through the "Vanco Mobile" app for your phone or by clicking on the "Give" tab on our website.*)

## **OFFERTORY**

“The Empty Room”

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED**

**All: 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.

**PRAYERS OF THE DAY** *(After each petition Pastor John will say, “Lord, in Your mercy,” to which the congregation is invited to respond, “Hear our prayer.”)*

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**All: 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.**

## † CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER †

Through the Lord’s Supper, our God graciously gives us the very body and blood of Jesus with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith in Him. To honor Jesus’ presence among us, we ask that those communing have the following fellowship ties with us:

- Each one has been baptized in the name of the Triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
- Each one has been instructed in and agrees with the Biblical teachings regarding the Lord’s Supper as confessed by this congregation;
- Each one can answer “Yes” to the following questions in preparation to receive the Lord’s Supper:
  - ◇ *Am I a sinner?*
  - ◇ *Am I sorry for my sin?*
  - ◇ *Do I believe Jesus died on a cross and rose from the dead to forgive me of my sin?*
  - ◇ *Do I believe Jesus is really present with the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper to deliver His forgiveness to me?*
  - ◇ *In response to God’s forgiveness, do I intend to live a God-pleasing life?*

If you are unsure about whether or not it would be beneficial for you to participate, please feel free to contact Pastor John at your convenience during this coming week ([pastorjohn.christlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjohn.christlutheran@gmail.com) or 765-623-1137). *(Please note that gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available for those who would prefer them.)*

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

### SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the † Lord be with you always.

**All: Amen.** *(The congregation may be seated.)*

### DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#### “Come to the Table”

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**We all start on the outside, the outside looking in.**

**This is where grace begins. We were hungry, we were thirsty,**

**With nothing left to give. Oh, the shape that we were in.**

**Just when all hope seemed lost, love opened the door for us.**

**He said: Come to the table. Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.**

**Take your place beside the Savior. Sit down and be set free. Come to the table.**

**Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and these thieves.**

**There's no one unwelcome here. So that sin and shame that you've brought with you,**

**You can leave it at the door and let mercy draw you near.**

**Come to the table. Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.**

**Take your place beside the Savior. Sit down and be set free.**

**Come to the table. Come to the table.**

**To the thief and to the doubter, to the hero and the coward,**

**To the pris'ner and the soldier, to the young and to the older.**

**All who hunger, all who thirst, all the last and all the first,**

**All the paupers and the princes, all who've failed, you've been forgiven.**

**All who dream and all who suffer, all who've loved and lost another,**

**All the chained and all the free, all who follow, all who lead.**

**Anyone who's been let down, all the lost, you have been found.**

**All who've been labeled right or wrong, to ev'ryone who hears this song.**

**Come to the table. Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.**

**Take your place beside the Savior. Sit down and be set free.**

**Sit down and be set free. Come to the table. Come to the table.**

#### “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

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**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.**

**I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.**

**How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me;**

**And like a flood His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.**

**He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me;  
And like a flood His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace.  
My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me;  
And like a flood His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace.  
The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine,  
Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

“Oh, How He Loves You and Me”

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Oh, how He loves you and me, oh, how He loves you and me.  
He gave His life, what more could He give?  
Oh, how He loves you; oh, how He loves me;  
Oh, how He loves you and me.  
Jesus to Calv'ry did go, His love for sinners to show.  
What He did there brought hope from despair.  
Oh, how He loves you; oh, how He loves me;  
Oh, how He loves you and me.

## PRAYER OF THANKS

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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 His favor and † give you His peace. *(Numbers 6:24–26)*

**All: Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

“Closing Medley”

[Vocal Choir & Congregation]

*Vocal Choir:* When I am down and oh, my soul, so weary,  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be,  
Then I am still and wait in the silence  
Until you come and sit awhile with me.  
You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains.  
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas.  
I am strong when I am on your shoulders.  
You raise me up to more than I can be.  
When I am down and oh, so weary,  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be,  
Then I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until you come and sit awhile with me.  
You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains.  
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas.  
I am strong when I am on your shoulders.  
You raise me up to more than I can be,  
You raise me up to more than I can be.

**All: In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All; here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine; bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the pow'r of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home; here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow;  
Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living just because He lives.**

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow;  
Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living just because He lives.**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**All: HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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