



St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wyoming, MN

Order of Worship

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021



Resurrection of Our Lord! Christ Is Alive! Alleluia!



*The long Lenten journey has passed; the glorious resurrection of Jesus has come into view.
May the good news of the empty tomb fill us with joy, and bring hope to every living thing!
He is risen! He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!*

Easter Greeting

Pastor: Easter is here!

People: Alleluia!

Pastor: Death is defeated!

People: Alleluia!

Pastor: Hope is alive!

People: Alleluia!

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: The grace and peace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope, be with you all!

People: And also with you!

Opening Hymn

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

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!

Announcement of the Resurrection

Pastor: On the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, they saw a man dressed in a dazzling white robe, who said to them, "*Do not be alarmed; you are seeking Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is not here. He has been raised.*"

People: **What does this mean?**

Pastor: Christ is alive; Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen, indeed! Thanks be to God!**

Hymn

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives!"

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

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!

He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.

Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: This day, we move from the *cruel* cross to an empty tomb;

People: **the wilderness of life has brought us down, but we believe that hope and joy lie ahead.**

Pastor: This day, we move from the *testing* cross to an empty tomb;

People: we have faced the harsh realities of life, but we believe that life will laugh and dance again.

Pastor: This day, we move from an *evil* cross to an empty tomb;

People: **injustice is no longer acceptable to us, and we believe the powerful will be confronted.**

Pastor: This day, we move from a *hopeless* cross to an empty tomb;

People: **our faith has been marked by routine and apathy, but we believe our spirits will sing again as we go about Christ's saving work in our homes, in our communities, and in our world.**

Pastor: The stone has been rolled away; new life is before you!

People: **We are ready to deal openly with the past. We are ready to live joyfully in the present. We are ready to grasp an adventurous vision of the future.**

Pastor: Pardon, peace, the risen life, is yours, in Christ Jesus, our risen Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Prayer of the Day

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.

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

People: **And also with you!**

Words of Welcome

Gospel Acclamation

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!"

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain

*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!*

Gospel

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2** So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” **3** Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4** The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7** and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8** Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9** for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10** Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; **12** and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. **13** They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” **14** When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16** Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” **18** Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Children’s Message

Easter Message

Hymn of the Day

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

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

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! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, 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!

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!

Offering - *Thank you for your continued support and generosity towards the mission and ministry of St. Paul Lutheran. Your consistent gifts are all the more important during this time of pandemic. You're reminded that you can contribute in three ways. You can click the "Donate" button below to give electronically, drop your envelope off at church, or mail in your offering envelope to: **St. Paul Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 583, Wyoming, MN 55092***



Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of love,

People: you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Special Music: *"Death Was Arrested"*

Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Blessing

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ our Savior has risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to newness of life, now and forever.

People: Amen!

Sending Hymn

“Thine Is the Glory”

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment, rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes, where thy body lay.

Refrain

*Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won!*

Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting!

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan, to thy home above. Refrain

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace! Share the Risen Christ's love - with joy!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

“Happy Day”

Thank you for Worshipping with us today!

Happy Easter!

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