



He is  
**RISEN**

## **This Changes Everything**

“He has been raised, he is not here.” These words of the angel standing outside the tomb on Easter morning are perhaps the most glorious ever spoken. He—Jesus—is not here. He is not in the tomb. He is not dead. He was dead, yes. He was in the tomb, yes. But he is no longer. He has been raised.

This is the truth of Easter. But you may wonder what this nice story about Jesus has to do with your life. Trumpets and lilies and white and gold linens, and lavish breakfasts and children all dressed up in their finest church clothes are lovely. But they don’t change the diagnosis, or the pink slip, or the dwindling bank account, or the divorce papers. They don’t change the reality of harder work for less pay, of addiction to technology, of the endless search for your true identity and real community. No, the accessories of Easter don’t change a thing. They are simply ways we often celebrate the message of Easter.

It is the message of Easter—that Christ is no longer dead, that Christ has been raised and is no longer in the tomb—which changes everything. We are promised that in baptism we are buried with Christ and also raised with Christ. Our tombs are empty because his is empty. Whatever evil circumstances come our way—however real and present they are—have no ultimate power to harm us. Jesus has overcome evil, and therefore so have we. The Easter story of Jesus is important because you are important to Jesus. Where he is, and what he is, you shall be also. He has been raised. You have been raised. Alleluia!

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**Sunday, April 1, 2018**

Easter Day

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

### **Introduction to the day**

This year may be the one in which John's resurrection account is likely to be chosen over Mark's, perhaps because Mark's gospel ends so abruptly, with astonishment and fear rather than joyful proclamation. Yet Mark may speak to our experience more directly than the other gospels. Corinthians and Acts fill out the story by telling of appearances of the risen Christ. Peter says we "ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead." And so do we, in a foretaste of the mountaintop feast where death will be no more.

*If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.*

*The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.*

*If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.*

### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

*The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the pre-service music enables worshippers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.*

"That Easter Day with Joy was Bright"	arr. Wood
"Oh Sons and Daughters of the King"	arr. Burkhardt
"Now the Green Blade Rises"	arr. Burkhardt
"And the Lord with the Sound of the Trumpet"	by Fletcher

### **WELCOME**

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.*

*Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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## GATHERING

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

*The assembly stands*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✚ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.  
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his  
family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into  
freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the  
Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.  
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## GREETING

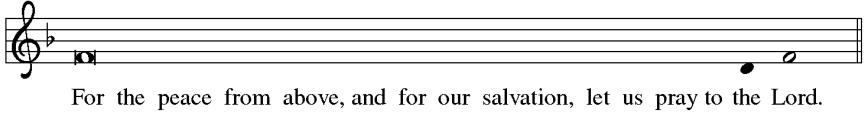
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

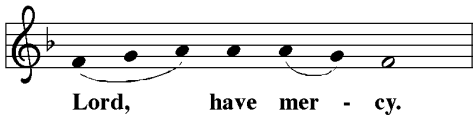
## KYRIE



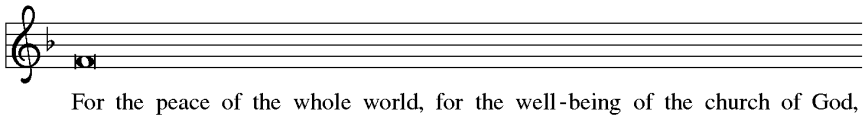
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



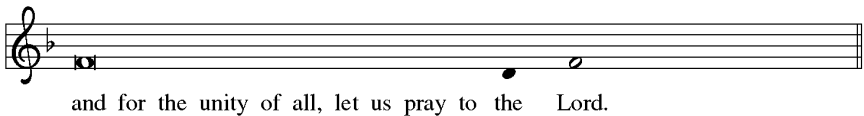
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



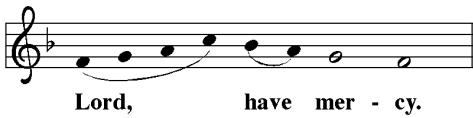
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



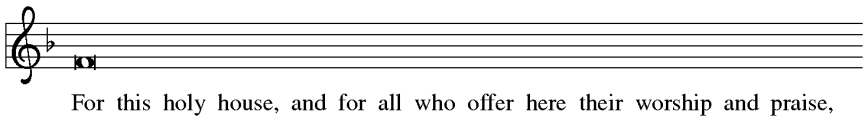
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



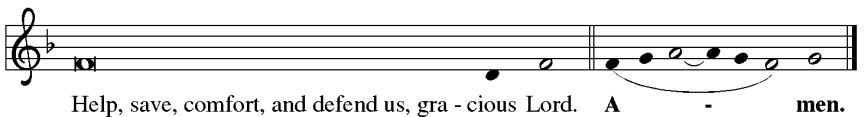
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,





glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*



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## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43**

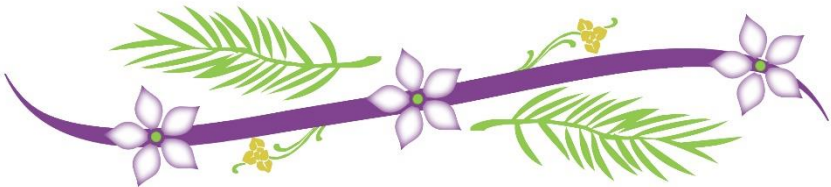
*Peter’s sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, “receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”*

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.**



“Festival Introit for Easter”

(Besig and Price)

Chancel Choir

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

*The core of the Christian faith and Paul’s preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the risen Lord in the preaching of this faith.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8**

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*

***ELW #377***

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
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**

On this day of rejoicing, we pray for the life of the church, the world, and all people in any need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.  
To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the  
prayers, and the assembly responds:*

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the spring of new and everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,  
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

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## **MEAL**

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **OFFERING**

"Now Is Christ Risen"

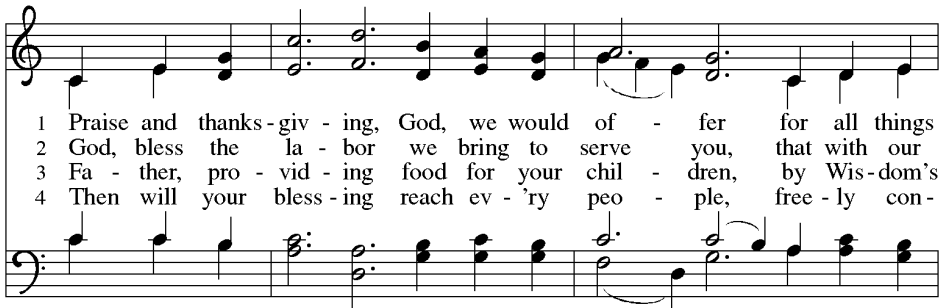
(Handel and Hopson)

Chancel Choir

# OFFERING RESPONSE

vs. 1 only

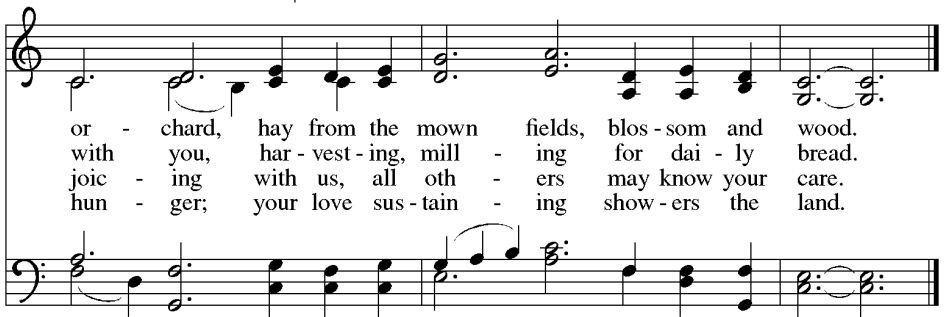
## Praise and Thanksgiving



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.  
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

*The assembly stands*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,  
as you were made known to the disciples.

Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,  
that we may be your risen body in the world.

**Amen.**

# GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

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.**

## PREFACE

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:



# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others. 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Now let us feast this Easter day  
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

*The assembly is seated*

## COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

WE WELCOME ALL GUESTS worshiping with us today and invite all baptized Christians to come to the Lord's table. Children who have not yet received First Communion instruction are invited to come forward with their families to receive a blessing. There will be one chalice (cup) of wine, as well as trays of individual cups. In the center of each tray, there are a few glasses filled with white grape juice for those who prefer juice rather than wine.

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Thine Is the Glory

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  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

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

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

*Refrain*  
 where thy bod - y lay.  
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions  
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious  
 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high  
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your

tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909  
 Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525-1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823-1889

*The assembly stands*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Life-giving God,  
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection  
you send light to conquer darkness,  
water to give new life,  
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.  
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection  
that we may show your glory to all the world;  
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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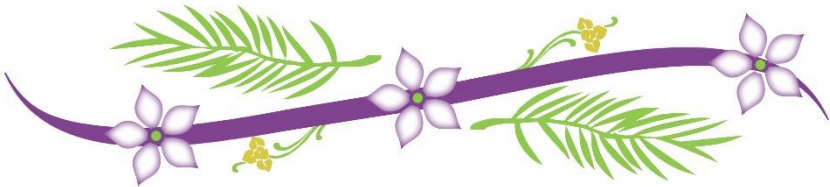
*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **BLESSING**

May God who has brought us from death to life  
fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



# SENDING SONG

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

**ELW #367**

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“A Paschal Fanfare”

by Malcolm Archer

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*Special thanks to our guest instrumentalists enriching our worship service this morning.*

*Austin Muthyala and Eric Wortzman, trumpet*

*Drew Kilpela and Kyle Tilstra, trombone*

# Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

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March 25, 2018 Attendance: 130

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Serving Faith Today

Acolyte	Austin Jones
Altar Care	Gretchen Bills & Gail Barricklow
Communion Assistants	Austin Jones

Greeters	Doug & Linda Hirt
Lay Assistants	Korine Wawrzynski
Readers	Gus Lusic
Ushers	Williams Family
Nursery	Williams Family



## EASTER SUNDAY

# Faith Friends & Family Announcements and News for April 1- April 7, 2018

*Log onto Faith's website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org) 24/7 for updates*

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, and Janice Taschner.
- † Friends and family—  
Harriet, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Emily, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), the White family and Max Whitmyer.
- † Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Landon Belanger Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- † Samaritas children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

### **NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER**

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April 1: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Wayne Shearier and the congregation of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Niles, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.



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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

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<b>Weekly Offering</b>	<b>3/18/18</b>	Year-to-date as of 2/28/2018	
Loose Cash	\$ 31.00	Income	\$34,921
World Hunger	\$ 60.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$52,563</u>
Youth		<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-17,642</b>
Blast off for Books	\$ 100.00		
Loaves & Fishes	\$ 10.00		
Caring Committee	\$ 100.00		
Books	\$ 8.00		
Easter Food Baskets	\$ 50.00		
Flowers	\$ 95.00		
General Fund	\$4072.00		
Michigan Refugee Hope	\$ 200.00		
Parish House Project	\$ 177.50		
Vision 2020	\$ 500.00		
Subtotal	\$5403.50		
Simply Giving	<u>\$2952.00</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8355.50</b>		

## **Vision 2020 Progress as of 3/18/2018**

	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Total Paid</b>
<b>Parking Lot</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>	<b>\$ 16,475</b>	<b>\$16,050.00</b>
<b>Pavilion</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,100</b>	<b>\$ 1,100.00</b>
<b>Transformation Fund</b>	<b>\$ 66,500</b>	<b>\$ 13,125</b>	<b>\$ 9,900.00</b>
<b>Audio/Video</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,700</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>
<b>Organ</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>	<b>\$ 715.00</b>
<b>MIDI</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$ 9,500.00</b>
<b>Not Designated</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 37,715</b>	<b>\$31,013.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$107,615</b>	<b>\$71,478.00</b>

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## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

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**Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ann Mayer in celebration of Tim Mayer's 35<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

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Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast is served.

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship

Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Noon Study in Pastor's office

Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritans ACTION

No Evening Activities due to Spring Break

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

Church Rented

Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>



9:00 a.m. Intergenerational Event hosted by Tara Williams

- The entire congregation is invited to join Tara through an interactive intergenerational event featuring art and Old Testament Scripture. This event is for age 0-100 😊 See you there! Meet us in the Large Downstairs Fellowship Hall.

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting

3:00 p.m. Worship at the Willows

No Teen Night: Next Meeting Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Love's House

ALL FAMILY EVENT COMING IN APRIL



Through hands-on activities and WOW! experiences come discover in surprising ways that **Jesus is Alive!!**



Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. This all family event will last approximately 45 mins. Join us for experiments, games, photos, snacks and fun! The whole congregation is welcome! \*\* Please note there will be no 9:00 a.m. Sunday School on 4/15/18.



Please contact [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org) with any questions or if you would like to help volunteer with stations or bring snacks.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE CARING COMMITTEE

**EASTER BASKET FOOD  
DRIVE  
THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU** from the Caring Committee to everyone who brought in food, donated money for perishables, helped pack the food items and those who delivered the food. We delivered Easter groceries to 20 families in Meridian Township. We are grateful to Tom's Food Center in Okemos for helping us with a great price on the hams and to the Great Harvest Bread Company for donating all the bread for each family. When you shop at Tom's and Great Harvest Bread Co. please tell them how much Faith Lutheran appreciates their support in this important ministry in our community.

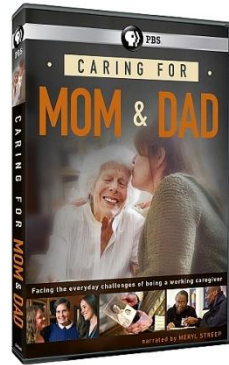


CAREGIVING  
MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2018 @  
11:30

We will be watching *Caring for Mom & Dad*.

“American’s are living longer than ever before. Seventy-five million

baby boomers are entering their retirement years at a rate of 10,000 a day. The United States is not prepared for this unprecedented demographic shift-and the question we’re now all facing is: who will care for this aging population when they can no longer care for themselves? *Caring for Mom and Dad* offers an intimate look at the issues facing family caregivers who are out on the front lines, struggling to balance work, families, and caring for their parents. Families from around the country share their stories as the film examines the physical, emotional, and financial tradeoffs facing working caregivers and their employers. The film also highlights innovative ideas and community-based programs that are supporting family caregivers by asking, “How can America adapt to this changing reality?”

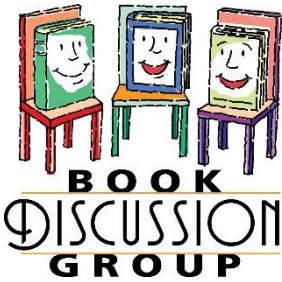


**COME JOIN FOR A LITE LUNCH AND DISCUSSION. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Mark your calendars for our upcoming topics:**

May 10th – How to manage emotionally as the Caregiver when your loved one is placed in assisted living or long-term care facility. Speaker – Heather Kaslo

## UPCOMING BOOK STUDIES



### UPCOMING BOOK STUDY

Tara Williams will be leading a discussion on the book "*Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life*" by Rowan Williams.

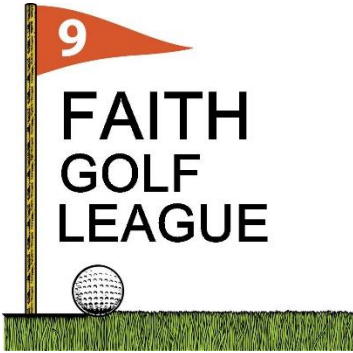
Together you will navigate what it means to be a disciple of Christ, and the different aspects of serving Him.

The discussion will begin April 15th at 9:00 am and will continue every Sunday, ending on May 13th. The cost of the book is \$8.50. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex! Hope to see you there!

## Parish House Updates/News

To help enable independence and encourage important life skills for budgeting and planning meals, we will be collecting gift cards to Meijer and cash donations for the youth for groceries. They have been working on these skills and we will continue to work with them as they move here beginning next week. Donations can be given at the regular offering time in a separate envelope marked "Groceries".

## FAITH LUTHERAN GOLF LEAGUE



### **ANNOUNCING - FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH GOLF LEAGUE**

We are forming a Faith Lutheran Golf League. Find a partner and join by signing up on the sheet in the Narthex. You may partner with your spouse, a friend or even one of your kids. We will be meeting and playing on Thursday afternoon/evenings at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. Our first night of play will be Thursday, May 10, and our tee off time is 5:30 PM. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen or Ken. A fun time will be experienced by all!

## CHURCH RENTAL

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that our Faith Lutheran facility is available for special events like showers, parties, weddings, etc. If you know of friends who are looking for a venue for such an occasion, please refer them to our Faith Lutheran website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)

Our Facility Rental Forms have now been posted on the website.

## Community News

Shared Parenting will be hosting a seminar at Faith Lutheran Church on Tuesday, April 10 from 7-8:30 PM. This organization advocates for children in divorce situations to have equal access to both parents. This will be an information sharing seminar and all are welcome!

## April:

- 4<sup>th</sup>: No Wednesday Evening Activities: Happy Spring Break!
- 8<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. Intergenerational Class with Tara Williams in New Fellowship Hall. Entire Congregation Welcome. \*\*No Teen Night Tonight\*\*
- 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30 Trinity (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) and activities for (pk-3<sup>rd</sup>) 7:30-8 p.m. Additional Activities for kids.  
\*\* Trinity Makes and serves Meal\*\*
- 15<sup>th</sup> No 9 a.m. Sunday School. All Family "He's Alive" Celebration following worship.
- 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30 Trinity (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) and activities for (pk-3<sup>rd</sup>) 7:30-8 p.m. Additional Activities for kids.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6, "Getting Ready" Teen Night 6-8 Loves House
- 25<sup>th</sup> \*\*Last Wednesday Night Programing\*\* 6:30-7:30 Trinity (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) and activities for (pk-3<sup>rd</sup>) 7:30-8 p.m. Additional Activities for kids.

## May:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Confirmand Dinner
- 6<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6, \*\*Confirmation Sunday\*\* Introductions of our Houston National Gathering Group.
- 13<sup>th</sup>: Happy Mother's Day!  
9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6, Teen Night 6-8 at Faith Church\*\*
- 20<sup>th</sup>: 9 a.m.: Last Day of Sunday School. Houston Fundraiser Car Wash immediately following worship. 7 p.m.  
Mandatory Houston Youth and Parents meeting at Faith.

## June:

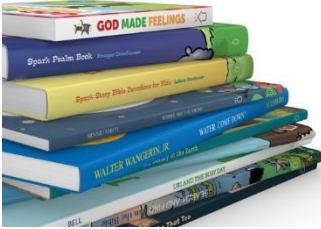
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Houston Fundraiser Yard Sale
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Music Sunday/Butterfly Release
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Grad Sunday
- 27<sup>th</sup>: Leave for National Gathering!!

Spark Family Book Fair

Shop faith-filled children's books at a special discount while helping the youth earn money for the

**2018 ELCA National Gathering in Houston!**

Check out the book fair table in the narthex and take an order form. Please return the form with your payment (payable to Faith Lutheran Church) to Katie Love or Tara Williams by Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.



If writing a check please put "Book Fair" on the memo line. Please see Katie or Tara with any questions! Books will be ordered Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.



**10 Teens and 2 Leaders will be leaving for Houston in 87 days! The last 3 years have been filled with fundraisers for this life changing event. We have 2 more fundraisers before we leave.**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>: Car Wash**

**June 1-2: Yard Sale: As you SPRING clean please look for items that you could add to our yard sale fundraiser. Items can be brought to the church starting in May.**

**Another way to help...**

**Visit the SPONSOR Board in the Narthex to sponsor a portion of our trip to Houston!! Thanks for your support!**



# BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering  
Houston Literacy Campaign



The teens going to the ELCA Youth Gathering are collecting books for the children of Houston as part of our offering. These books will be handed out at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city

as part of the Gathering's Service and Learning experience.

Ways you can participate

1. Place a monetary donation in the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS box in the narthex. We will use that money to buy the designated books.
2. Use the list provided on the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS table to purchase the books requested. **Please note ONLY books on the list will be accepted.** Books must be new or gently used. On the list there is a link to an amazon page that has all the books listed for purchase.

Please let Katie or Tara know if you have any questions!!

Thank you for your support!

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## BOOKS of the BIBLE

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The Trinity and Confirmation Students are challenged to learn the books of the Old and New Testament. Congratulations to the following students who have already mastered the books of the New Testament.

Austin Jones, Sean O'Brien, Lily O'Brien, Kaden Steinke, Olivia Love, Serena Ngasala, Rachael Ngasala, Atu Ngasala, Paige Lewis and Sami Ransom. Keep studying!! Challenge runs through April 25!



## 2018 Flower Dedications

Harry Nawrock and the Richardson family in memory of  
Rose Marie Nawrock.

Bruce Williams in memory of Gladys & Stanley Williams.

Ryan and Addie Thompson in memory of Walter and Zola  
Hall, Norman and Janette Madson and Merle Thompson. In  
honor of Ruth Thompson and Dudley and Jonell Owen.

Dorothy Rush in memory of Leo Rush, Steven Rush and  
Marsha Rush Schoepf.

Jon and Elaine Harrison in memory of parents, Russell &  
Julia Harrison and Ed & Ruth Kluck and their wonderful  
examples of Christian living.

Mike Eschelbach in celebration of a new granddaughter,  
Mila Kiko.

Doug and Linda Hirt in memory of our grandparents.

Linda and Lee Gerard in memory of loved ones.

Jasper Wawrzynski in honor of Gudrun & Bernhard Steinke  
and Carol & Joseph Wawrzynski.

Warren and Tammy Heilman in memory of Warren's dad,  
Les Heilman and in memory of Tammy's parents Gene and  
Ida Joachim.

The Williams family in celebration of Easter!

The Magyar family in celebration of friendship and family.

Ken & Karen Whitmyer in celebration of Easter.

Gretchen Bills in celebration of Shameeka, Leah and Sophie.

Kopf family in memory of William and Hilda Kopf, Richard  
and Jane Kemmler, Hannes and Eleanor Tietje and Sandra  
Fox.

Tom, Chris, Jean, Juliana and Paige in memory of Josephine  
Vento.

The Kadrofske family in memory of Lois & Bernard  
Kadrofske and Gerald Brandt.

Marla Holle in celebration of the joyous news of Easter and  
hope of new life.

*Feel free to take home your flowers after the service.*