

AS WE GATHER

We are here because untold millions of our brothers and sisters heard God's Word, came to faith, and couldn't keep the news to themselves. Who told you? Whom will you tell? Because Jesus lives, we shall live forever with Him! **This is the Easter hope that brings joy!**

+ CELEBRATE OUR RISEN SAVIOR! +

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 118:24

P The light of Christ!

C **Thanks be to God!**

P All of you choirs of angels and saints in heaven before us:

C **Rejoice at Christ's victory over death.**

P Now, heaven and earth, even all of creation:

C **Rejoice, for the eternal darkness has been defeated.**

P Rejoice, brothers and sisters in Christ both here and around the world!

C **Our Lord has kept all God's promises!**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P This is the day that the Lord has made;

C **let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!**

LSB 477 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN

1 Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.

2 Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.

△ 3 Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** We cannot enter God's presence as we are. Our sinful condition falls short of the glory of God. Let us therefore give voice to those sins, confessing our faults and failures to one another and to God Himself.
- C** **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 on 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.**
- P** Rejoice and be glad! God has not merely overlooked your faults; He has not missed your failures; and He knows the frailty of the human condition. Rather, He became one of us as Jesus, who died to pay for every sin or yours and your

sinfulness itself. Jesus not only paid the penalty; on this day our heavenly Father proclaimed to all the world that He accepted the payment. Your sins are forgiven indeed!

In the stead and by the command of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155

C This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

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

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

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

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us.

C **Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit;**

P through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ GOD'S EASTER WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6–9 NIV

⁶On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of
wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth.
The Lord has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the Lord, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1–11 NIV

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I
preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken

your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 16:1–8 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

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

^{16:1} When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus'

body. ² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶ “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

LSB 457 JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

- 1 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!
- 2 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!
- 3 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!

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

Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; (sts. 1–3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707–88
Text: Public domain

EASTER MESSAGE The Easter Hope That Brings Joy!

CATECHISM The Second Article

C I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ,

I *true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,*

II *and also true man, born of the virgin Mary,*

C *is my Lord,*

- ❑ I *who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and
from the power of the devil;*
- ❑ II *not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood
and with His innocent suffering and death,*
- ❑ **that I may be His own and live under Him in His
kingdom and serve Him in everlasting
righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as
He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all
eternity. This is most certainly true.**

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

LSB 474 ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN sts. 1, ref, 4–5

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! **Refrain**

ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

4 Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent:

Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.

Cherubim sing: “O grave, be open!”

Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. **Refrain**

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

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

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+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not spare Your only Son, but gave Him into death that we might have life. Though we cannot understand Your love or comprehend eternity, we lift our voices in thanksgiving and pray You to strengthen us through this Sacrament to serve as Your witnesses.
- C** **Give us opportunity, use our gifts, and move us by Your Holy Spirit to tell the news of Jesus’ victory over death each day that You give us for loving service.**
- P** Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

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

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and prepare us to receive Your living presence!

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

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

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

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

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMN +

LSB 461 I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;

He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.

Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace as you serve our living Lord.

C Alleluia! We go forth in Hope!

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

LSB 465 NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

sts. 1–2, 4

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds

In praise of love that still abounds:

“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:

“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”

Now still He comes to give us life

And by His presence stills all strife.

Christ has triumphed! He is living!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

△ 4 Adoring praises now we bring

And with the heav'nly blessed sing:

“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!”

Be to the Father and our Lord,

To Spirit blest, most holy God,

All the glory, never ending!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

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