

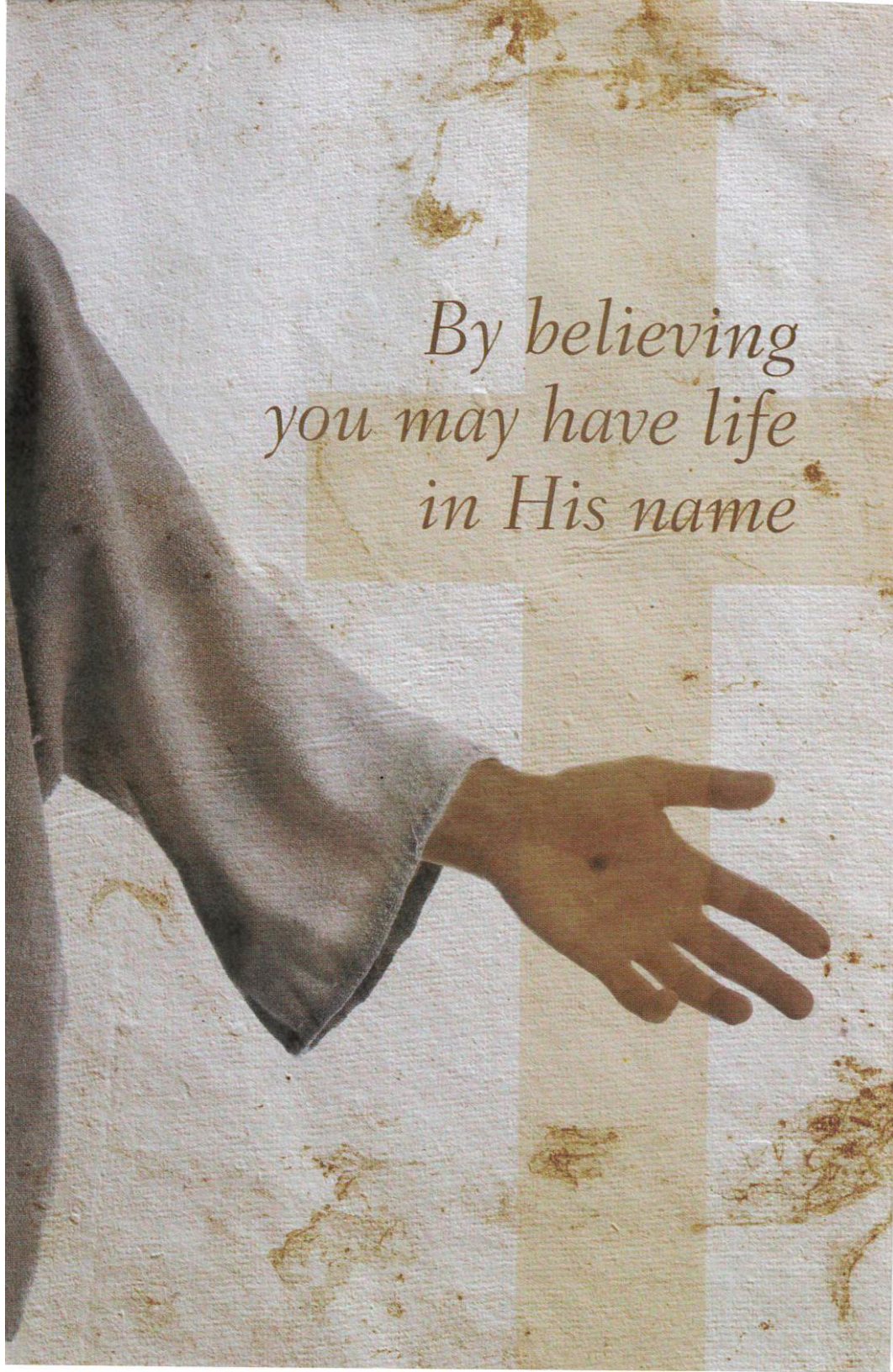
“Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at www.ascensionav.org. Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Carol Buchanan
Marvin Eisenbeiss
Gwen Strasburg
Rick & Didi Gift
Charlene Krentz
Renee Moore
Linda Rogers
Lonny Stumbaugh
Angela Alder
Rita Barris
Bill Blanton
Rachel Clark
Larry Cramins
Ron DeRose
Dwight & Pam Easley
Riley Faith
Carol Furn
Grace Lutheran Church
Jeanne Hecksel
Sandy Jurey
John & Connie Kays
Rylee LaTrace
Military
Janet Mowery
Tim & Marguerite Pastella
Rita Poole
Lori Reisner
Dave Riffel
Daniel Singleton
Carrie & Braden Stedge
Delvin Tumbling
Robert & Pat Tylisz
Kat Walker

Kenny Cabral
Gaylon Pastella
Marjorie Wilson
Mo & Rocky Gamas
Steve Martines
Carolyn Penna
Mildred Sears
Nikki Stumbaugh
Amy
Tracy Beam
Shannon Blocker
Congregation
Dave & Sarah
Gene Dooner
David Enos
Faith Lutheran Church
Josh Garcia & Family
Marty Hall
Jason Holling
Pam Kaiser
Emma Kraus
Ronnie Longero
Jennifer Millgate
Sally O’Neil
Persecuted Christians
Donna Pringnitz
Resurrection Lutheran
Carla Rosen
Small Business Owners
Terry Strey
Denise Turner & Family
Deidre Tyska
Kathy Wilson-Rodaer

Pat Lorenzen
Kevin Smith
Detwiler Family
Roger Hall
Beverly Moglich
Judy Pepper
Barbara Stumbaugh
All Churches
Kevin Barnes
Jackie Berry
John Buracznski
Coronavirus Victims
Cathy DeRose
Francis Durfee & Family
Lynn Fairgrief
Rick & Alicia Ferrell
Government
Pastor Harris
Justin Huf Family
Scott Kaiser
Jennifer LaRue
Judy Mihna
Morgan
Kayla Overmyer
Gail Peterson
Nevin Purbaugh
Peggy Rhoades
Diane Short
June Spradlin
Frances Truslow
Sue Twarowski
Tammy VanVliet
Don Woodward



*By believing
you may have life
in His name*

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor@ascensionav.org; office@ascensionav.org
Website: www.ascensionav.org
Rev. James Harris, Pastor

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 a.m. Inside & Drive-In Service April 11, 2021
93.5 FM
COWBOY WORSHIP

Thoughts As We Gather:

The Lord is resurrected. (He is risen; He is risen, indeed!) That was last Sunday. Now, in this *season* of resurrection and life, we see what the resurrection means for the Church, for us, and for our children.

The resurrection means that the risen Christ will now send His apostles out into the world to “[give] their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus” and speak His grace upon sinners (*First Reading*, Acts 4:33).

The resurrection means that, as the apostles proclaim what they have heard with their own ears and seen with their own eyes (*Epistle*, 1 Jn 1:1), sinners will hear “the word of life,” and it is “to you the eternal life” (1:1, 2). As sinners, this will give us the life of *simul justus et peccator* as we confess our sin (1:9–10), the daily death of our old Adam, and we hear the Word (Gospel) forgiving our sin and cleansing us from all unrighteousness (1:9). This word of forgiveness is the Gospel spoken to us here on earth and also the word of the Advocate who speaks on our behalf to the Father (2:1). “He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world” (2:2).

Thus, the readings give us our justification spoken at the throne in heaven by our Advocate and justification spoken to us here on earth by the word that absolves all sin (*Gospel*, Jn 20:23). That word, spoken by our local successor to the apostles, ordinary as He may be, gives us peace and everlasting life. The reality of the resurrection that we encountered on Easter now breathes life into the Church, as the apostles are sent out to release sinners from fear of the Law, giving life and bestowing faith by the word of the Gospel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be sure to sign the registration book as you drive in. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 18, 2021 after cleanup of the church following service.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Reminder, we are collecting these items for the next two weeks. Matt from Moses House will be here on Sunday, April 25th to share about how they help families in our community. If you wish to help with this project, please place your donations in the collection box in the Narthex. Thank you for your help. Items needed:

1. toiletries (full size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, shaving cream, etc.)
2. cleaning supplies (disinfectant sprays, dish soap, toilet cleaner, etc.)
3. diapers (size 4 and up) and wipes
4. baby boy clothes (newborn – 24 months)

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Sun. (04/11) 9:00 a.m. Drive-In & Inside Worship

Wed. (04/14) 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sun. (04/18) 9:00 a.m. Drive-In & Inside Worship
After Church Council Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

04/04/2021 9:00 a.m. 102

OFFERING:

Needed weekly: \$ 3,737.00

Received 04/04/21 \$ 9,156.35

Over \$ 5,419.35

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Softly and Tenderly

Reba McEntire

Instrumental

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling for you and for me
See, on the portals, He's waiting and watching
Watching for you and for me

Come home, come home
Ye who are weary come home
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling
Calling, 'O sinner, come home!'

O for the wonderful love He has promised
Promised for you and for me
Though we have sinned He has mercy and pardon
Pardon for you and for me

Come home, come home
Ye who are weary come home
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling
Calling, 'O sinner, come home!'

Instrumental

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling for you and for me
See, on the portals, He's waiting and watching
Watching for you and for me

Come home, come home
Ye who are weary come home
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling
Calling, 'O sinner, come home!'
Calling, 'O sinner, come home!'
Come home!

Changed

I came up out of the water
Raised my hands up to the Father
Gave it all to Him that day
Felt a new wind kiss my face
Walked away, eyes wide open
Could finally see where I was going
It didn't matter where I been I'm not the same man I was then

I got off track, I made mistakes
Backslid my way into that place where souls get lost
Lines get crossed
And the pain won't go away
I hit my knees,
Now here I stand
There I was, now here I am
Here I am
Changed

I got a lot of "hey I'm sorries"
The things I've done, man that was not me
I wish that I could take it all back
I just want to tell 'em that
Tell 'em that

I got off track, I made mistakes
Backslid my way into that place where souls get lost
Lines get crossed
And the pain won't go away
I hit my knees
Now here I stand
There I was, now here I am
Here I am
I've changed for the better
More smiles, that's better
I even started to forgive myself
Yes, I am

Instrumental

I hit my knees, now here I stand
There I was, now here I am
Here I am (here I am); Here I am (here I am)
I'm changed
Oh, yes I am

Rascal Flats

STEWARDSHIP: April 11 – Easter 2

John 20:19 – “Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ” The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us – not our works – we are now free to do good works. Good works shouldn't be done out of self-interest but for the right reasons – out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

ELDER Mark Amer
HEAD USHER Bruce Benson

SUNDAY READINGS

The readings for Sunday, April 18, 2021 are:

Acts 3:11-21
Psalm 4 (antiphon v. 7)
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36-49

I'm changed for the better.
Oh
(Here I am)

Instrumental

Thank God I'm changed

Instrumental

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Kneel/Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS

292

Let us run before our Lord's throne of grace and confess our sins to Him who is faithful and just and promises to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness

We Confess

**I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins.
I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most.
My Lord's name I have not honored as I should;
my worship and prayers have faltered.
I have not let His love have its way with me,
and so my love for others has failed.
There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help.
My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin.**

I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better.

ABSOLUTION

203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

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

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32–35

³²The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold

Old Rugged Cross

Loretta Lynn

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
Where the world of lost sinners was slain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Til my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown

Instrumental

Oh that old rugged cross so despised by the world
Is a wonderous attraction for me
For the dear lamb of God left His glory above
To bare it to dark calvary

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Til my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Til my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown

Acknowledgments

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Were You There?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
While sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Ah, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Instrumental

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Ah sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there when He rose up from the grave? (from the grave)
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
Ah sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?

Randy Travis

them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 148; antiphon: v. 13

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise Him in the heights!

²**Praise Him, all His angels;
praise Him, all His hosts!**

³Praise Him, sun and moon,
praise Him, all you shining stars!

⁴**Praise Him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD!

For He commanded and they were created.

⁶**And He established them forever and ever;
He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

⁸**fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling His word!**

⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰**Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹²**Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for His name alone is exalted;

His majesty is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴**He has raised up a horn for His people,
praise for all His saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!**

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 1:1—2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve,

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.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

THE DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.
C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

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.

SANCTUS

161

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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 I -body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

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!

Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON TEXT: John 20:19-31

SERMON THEME: Toward the Forgiveness of Sin

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all His adopted children in Christ, that they would always long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the Church on earth, that her ministers would faithfully pronounce the free forgiveness of sins to all repentant sinners and so show forth the peace declared between God and man in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the Church in her works of mercy, that she would be united in the common life and love of our Savior and so share that life and love with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Christian parents, that the peace of the risen Christ and the forgiveness of sins would be freely shared in the home and so bind families together in love, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the authorities God has placed over us in federal, state and local governments, that He would give them the desire to serve with integrity and honor and to work for the benefit of all, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick and sorrowful, for those who mourn, and for all who stand in need of our prayers, [*especially* _____] let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For all who eat and drink the body and blood of Christ, the Word of life, that forgiven of their sins, they may also have fellowship with God and one another, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace and for the sake of Your Son You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the Holy Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

PREFACE

LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: