

AS WE GATHER

God, through Paul, reminds us that Easter is of “first importance.” If Christ had not arisen, our hope would be still locked in the tomb. Because He is risen, just as He said, we have hope of our own resurrection from the dead and look forward to the life everlasting, which death cannot touch. We come here today not simply to remember an event but to rejoice in the future made possible for us because of what happened.

(The Invocation and Litany are led from the back of the nave; the procession begins here and commences with the singing of the hymn.)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Lord Jesus Christ, our Paschal Lamb who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world:

C have mercy on us.

P Lord Jesus Christ, who by Your death has destroyed death, and by Your rising to life again has restored to us eternal life:

C have mercy on us.

P Lord Jesus Christ, who rose early in the morning on the first day of the week and did first appear to Mary Magdalene:

C **have mercy on us.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, who appeared to Your disciples proclaiming peace and breathed on them the Holy Spirit:

C **have mercy on us.**

P By Your suffering and dying:

C **deliver us from sin, its guilt, and its punishment.**

P By Your glorious resurrection:

C **deliver us from this body of death.**

P By the majesty of Your risen body:

C **deliver us from the weakness of this mortal life and lead us to eternity.**

P Set our minds on things above, that we may walk in love in this earthly journey and that we may dwell with You forever in the heavenly places of light and life.

C **Grant that we may live in Easter joy today and all the days of our lives until we attain its eternal joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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!

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

C **Amen.**

+ GOD'S WORD FOR US +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all
the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have

waited for him, that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 16:1–8

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

LSB 633 AT THE LAMB’S HIGH FEAST WE SING sts. 1–2, 5–7

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His piercèd side. Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

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SERMON: LOVE LIVES!

OUR PRAYERS

+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION+

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Merciful and loving Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by our sinful actions and our failure to do the good You desire. We pray You to grant to the penitent absolution and peace, that freed from the burden of guilt they enjoy the gift of a clear conscience.
- C** **Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.**
- 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. As we delight in God's forgiving love, let us be reconciled to one another and share the peace of the Lord.

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ 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.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

☐ 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."

+ COMMUNION HYMN +

461 I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

sts. 1–3, 5, 7–8

- 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.
- 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.
- 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!

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.**

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

LSB 463 CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY; ALLELUIA sts. 1–2, 4

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!

Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!

Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!

At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!

Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!

Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!

Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!

All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!

Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!

Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!