

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

- The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod -

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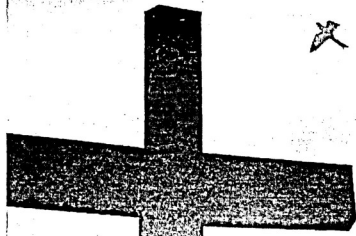
THE RESURRECTION

And the angel answered and said unto the women. Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay, . . . (Matthew 28: 5, 6)

Easter Sunday

March 31st, 2024

Reverend Michael Mathey, Pastor



Jesus is RISEN,
the VICTORY is won,
sins are FORGIVEN
praise God
for His Son!

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's Statement on Close Communion:

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 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 in 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 to first speak with the Pastor.

(CTCR, *Admission to the Lord's Supper*, Nov 1999)

Life Quotes: March 31 "The disciples and the first century Christians may have felt like they were on the losing side. They had their doubts and fears. Maybe you do, too. They may have lost some earthly things. You may, too. But Jesus takes away the fear and the doubt. You have hope in His resurrection. You have hope even through the trials of life. You have a living hope in your living Lord." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: March 31 – Resurrection of Our Lord – The Scriptures do not limit the sanctity of human life to a few isolated passages. Almighty God has made survival and salvation, abundant and everlasting, the point of the whole story. He intends His resurrection to encompass and affect every member of our race and every moment of our existence, from fertilization to forever. This is nothing less than the Gospel of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)!

Divine Service I

ST. John Chimes “The Day of Resurrection”

Service of the Word

Easter Greeting:

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen

C He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Processional Hymn “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

LSB 457

Kyrie (p.152)

This is the Feast (p.155)

Collect of the Day

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.

P Let us pray.

C Amen.

First 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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (p.156)

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?”⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed.⁶ And 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.⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”⁸ And 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.

Nicene Creed (p.158)

Office hymn: “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offertory (p.159)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.160)

Sanctus (p.161)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 161)

The Words of Our Lord (p. 162)

Proclamation of Christ (p. 162)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.162) Spoken

Pax Domini (p. 163)

Agnus Dei (p.163)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymns:

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” LSB 633

“Know That My Redeemer Lives” LSB 461

Post Communion Canticle “Thank the Lord” (p. 164)

Post Communion Collect (p.164)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” LSB 463



Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

Our Shut-ins

STJ: Lilies and chancel flowers donated in memory of Virgene Marten by her family.

Beth: Thank you to everyone who donated Lilies for Easter.

CHILI FEED LUNCH: The youth attending Higher Things will be holding a Chili Feed. Sunday, April 14th. Serving will be from 12:30PM-2:00PM at St John in the Fellowship Hall. Chili, toppings, desserts, and beverages will be served. FREE WILL OFFERING will be taken. If you would like to contribute chili, please let Deb know so we make sure to have a space for your dish. EVERYONE come and enjoy food and fellowship!

Annual Thrift Sale: Bethlehem and St. John May 1,2,3 and 4, 9 to 5. Please bring items after April 14. No large furniture or electronics. Set up after services on Sunday April 28, Monday & Tuesday April 29 and 30th. For more information and to sign up to help contact Arlette Molthen 715-223-6060 or Janice Brown 715-219-1970.

+ + +
KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE
+ + +

If all Jesus had to do was die, then why is Easter such a big deal?

Easter is a very important day. Easter is the day that we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

After Jesus was crucified, His disciples were very sad. It seemed like their God and friend had been defeated and killed. They had forgotten that Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead. They must have thought Mary Magdalene was crazy when she told them that Jesus had appeared to her at the tomb where He was buried. But her story was true! Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead!

Later, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times to prove it. And that's just what He did, *He proved it!* By His resurrection, He proved to the world that He was victorious over death and paid for our sins completely. Now, the first words you hear in church on Easter Sunday are: "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



Parents: Help your children to recognize the different places in our worship service which speak of Jesus' resurrection (the Creed is a good example). Point out some of the symbols in the church that might aid in their understanding of the resurrection. Remind them that we join in His resurrection through our Baptism!