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The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day April 20, 2025



As We Gather

Resurrection Confidence

Jesus compels us to ponder the unthinkable, the amazing—to embrace a cataclysmic event that destroys death and literally makes all things new. Resurrection! Christ's brutal coronation and crucifixion ensures that the entire cosmos, the heavens and the earth, are renewed—in resurrection! Chills soar through our souls at the very thought of it all. In confident faith we are bold to confess that king Jesus unleashes His incomparable reign, crushing the evil aggression of principalities, authorities, and even Satan himself. Unrelenting shouts and songs of alleluia shape the church today because of resurrection. Setting aside all timidity, fear, and anxiety, the church acclaim "Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" Resurrection confidence in Jesus unites our speech and our song on this day, as we await—with the same confidence—our own day of resurrection, with all the saints in glory.

PRELUDE

Easter Toccata on "Christ ist erstanden", by Paul Fey

HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" #457

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: In the name of the Father—who creates and re-creates new life in the kingdom of resurrection,

People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: and of ✠ Jesus—who redeems and resurrects new life in the kingdom of resurrection,

People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit—who sanctifies and breathes new life in the kingdom of resurrection.

People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God our Father, and Christ, our risen King!

People: Resurrected Lord and Savior, we confess before You that our Easter faith is meager; we have not acted decisively in sharing Your love. Our forgiveness for others is tepid. We fail to be gracious in conflict and forget that all believers belong to You—the crucified and risen Lord. Although we are undeserving, You have crowned us with resurrection certainty by Your life-changing grace and mercy. Death is destroyed. Easter life flourishes, now and forever!

Pastor: Christ has died. We, too, shall die. Christ has risen. We, too, shall rise, because we are more than conquerors in and through Christ Jesus. Our eternal confidence and unwavering faith are in Him alone! Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

✂ WORD ✂

KYRIE

pew hymnal page 151

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

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

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

Pastor: 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.

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and
praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

People: ♪ Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the Feast” *pew hymnal page 155*

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to
be people of God. **Refrain**
2. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory
are His. **Refrain**
3. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation.
4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen. **Refrain**
5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Final
Refrain**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

People: **♪ Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 65:17-25

*(God re-creates all things new!—the heavens, the earth, Jerusalem, the chosen—
upending a sin-broken world, preparing all believers for new life in resurrection.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

*(In the end, the kingdom of God will rule over every power and authority.
All believers shall be made alive in Christ.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA and VERSE

pew hymnal page 156

♪ **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:1-12

(The Lord is crucified, killed, and buried, but His tomb is found empty! Resurrection triumph prevails. Jesus is alive! Believers are perplexed, amazed, yet confident by faith.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

People: **♪ Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: **♪ Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED *(found on the last page of the pew hymnal)*

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" #461

SERMON *Pastor Mark Croucher*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Luke 6:20-22*

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Lord of all creation made new in resurrection, we give thanks to You that the light of Christ eclipses our sin and that the waters of Baptism keep us buoyant in a sure and certain faith unto life everlasting. We earnestly await the revelation of the new Jerusalem, where we will be resurrected and numbered with all the saints of light and life.

HYMN "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" #673 v1

Pastor: Dearest Jesus, You are the Lord of hope, life, and joy for all those who have fallen asleep. In You all will be made alive! Resurrection shall be ours, when we are delivered into the kingdom of God the Father. We give thanks that You destroyed the adversaries that seek to marginalize faith and divert us from knowing and confessing the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

HYMN "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" #673 v2

Pastor: Lord of life, together with the eyewitnesses of Your empty tomb, move us from skepticism to bold confidence, from scared silence to convincing emphatic proclamation of the risen Christ. Let us rejoice that we stand in the lineage of the prophets who foretold the risen Savior, the apostles and saints who were Jesus' companions, and for all of us who eagerly await the final day of resurrection.

HYMN "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" #673 v6

Please be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *"Llanfair," for two trumpets and organ*

Please stand as you are able.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

pew hymnal page 160-166

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **♪And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **♪We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **♪It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

**♪ 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

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of the heavens and earth—made new! Your mercy is woven into the very words of Scripture and into the lives of the saints who confess Your holy name, and unrelentingly take hold of the resurrection as temporal and eternal truth. Grant that Your life-giving Word and Spirit invade

our minds, our speech, and our hearts, that we may be credible witnesses of divine truth—Jesus alone was crucified, died, and raised to new life. By faith we claim this resurrection as our very own! That resurrection will usher us into eternity that we may share in the marriage feast of the Lamb that will have no ending. To You alone, O Father of all creation, Son of resurrection, and Spirit of joy, be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

People: ♪ **Amen**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

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

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: 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 teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: ♪ **Amen**

AGNUS DEI

♪ **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.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

"Fairest Lord Jesus," arranged by Tedd Smith and Don Hustad for piano and organ

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

♪ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, risen Savior, that You have made all things new through Your resurrection. In this Holy Sacrament Your body and blood nourish us with forgiveness and increase our faith. In this Meal we join all the saints who have prophesied, witnessed, and proclaimed resurrection. Grant that this feast enjoins us to all things new in this time and eternity. Shaped by resurrection hope, joy, and life, grant that we boldly love one another through You, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪A-men

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: ♪ A-men

EASTER ACCLAMATION

People: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

HYMN "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #465

POSTLUDE *"Thine is the Glory," arranged by Lani Smith for piano and organ.*