

April 9, 2023 Resurrection of our Lord

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Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community**, **communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

> Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know a nursery space is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones

Introduction

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God

shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

Welcome to Worship

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Call to Worship

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 by whose hand we are given new birth,
 by whose speaking we are given new life.
- All Amen.

Ρ

- Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.
 - Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

- In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
- In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,

for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,

quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

All Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

All Amen.



Greeting

 P The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love and wisdom of God, and the light and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

P In peace, in peace,



- *P* For the reign of God and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all...(Refrain)
- P For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word...(Refrain)





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- *P* The Lord be with you
- All And also with you.

Prayer for This Day

P Let us pray:

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death.

All Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

You may be Seated

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with

him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Acts 10:34-43

- *L* Word of God, Word of Hope!
- All Thanks be to God!

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 118

Please join in a responsive reading of the Psalm. Leader will read the light print while the congregation responds with the bold.

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever. ²Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever." ¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation. ¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly! ¹⁶The right hand of the LORD¹ is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!" ¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. ¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death. ¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD. ²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter." ²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
 ²³By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

A Reading from Colossians the 3rd chapter

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4



Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matthew 28:1-10

- *P* The Gospel of our Lord.
- All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Please stand in body or spirit.



Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

Hymn of the Day

Prayers of The People

L United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.



(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Risen Lord, in your mercy,

All: You hear our prayer.



- *P* Christ become peace with you.
- All And also with you.





P Risen One,

as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal.

All Nourish us to follow you,

using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.



P It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation.

And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thinks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you... Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup,

gave thanks, and gave if for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Presider: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.



P Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:

Presider: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation.

Presider: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.



P This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.



The Lord's Prayer

- *P* Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:
- All 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 Invitation

 P Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, offers everyone a place of welcome at His table of grace.
 Come to the feast.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice. *Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant*





Additional invocations:

you broke the bond of sin and of death: you are the way of justice and peace: you are the way of mercy and love:





How Great Is Our God

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash





P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

THANKS BE TO YOU





Please be seated for

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

- P Oh God, I stretch out my hands to you in this early Easter darkness.
 I need you to pull me up and set me on my feet again, for I am weak and tired.
- All God, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Spirit, have mercy.
- *P* God, on that first Easter morning while it was still dark, one woman went alone to the tomb to do what could be done to honor you, though hope had drained away.
 - Two bright angels met her there, and then how is it possible? you were there, fully alive, beyond belief.

Blessed are we who stretch out our hands to you in doubt and grief,

in sickness of body and mind and spirit,

our prayers not fully realized,

rejoicing . . . anyway.

For that is what makes us Easter people: carrying forth the realized hope of the Resurrected One, singing our alleluias great and small, while it is still dark.

All Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

P May God the Creator,
Cod the Dedeemer of ...

God the Redeemer of our Souls,

bless and fill you now and always.

All Amen.

Ρ





P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

With the joy of new life in Christ Jesus,

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you." *Ephesians 4:23*

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Thanks be to God.

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