



Sunday, April 12, 2026

10:00 a.m.



Pastor Erik Allen

“Worth the Risk”



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

Michael Burkhardt

Announcements

Gathering Song

We Bow Down

Call to Worship

P: Hallelujah! We give thanks to the Lord with our whole hearts,
In the assembly of the faithful, in the gathered community.

**C: Great are the works of the Lord—
Full of majesty, splendor, and enduring righteousness.**

P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
Providing for all and remembering every promise.

**C: God’s works are faithful and just,
Steadfast in truth, standing firm forever.**

P: God has sent redemption to the people;
Holy and awesome is God’s name.

**C: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom—
Let us praise the Lord, now and forever.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

Change My Heart O God

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the
Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God, who chose us in Christ. Let us come to the fountain of mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Almighty God,

C: In raising Jesus from the tomb, you destroyed the power of sin and death. Hear us as we confess our failure to live the good news of the resurrection. Grant us the radiant power of your grace. Forgive us, heal us, and renew us, so that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

P: In great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In obedience to our Lord's command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

please be seated

Lesson Acts 2:14, 22-32

Gospel John 20:19-31

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message Pastor Erik

Sermon "Worth the Risk" Pastor Erik

Hymn Touch That Soothes and Heals ACS 939

The Nicene Creed

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

please be seated

The Offering

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Offering Response

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!
vs 1 & 5

ELW 380

Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church *(the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.)*

Members: Marion, Kelly, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Jessie, Adelyn, Kipp, Dale, Melanie, Charles, Chuck,
Sylvia, Bill, Marie, Mary, Carol, Bob

Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

please be seated.

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

Benediction

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Song

Beautiful One

Sending

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

Keith Kolander

Announcements

Carmel Marathon

We again are Water Stop B for the Carmel Marathon on Saturday, April 18. Plan to show up at the KOG parking lot by 6:45 am. We should be able to leave by about 9:00. Questions? See Brad Ackermann. Signups available through Flocknote!

Silver Boxes

Our next opportunity to help folks who are struggling with the ability to afford food on the near-northeast side of Indianapolis is just around the corner. Packing and deliveries take place at Servants of Christ Lutheran Church, at 7650 Oaklondon Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46236 on April 17th and 18th. See Hans Loyda or check your Flocknote to signup.

Euchre Night

It is time for some more fun and fellowship at Euchre Night hosted by the Fraziers on Saturday, April 18 at 7 pm. Please bring: A snack to share, your non-alcoholic drink and you're free to bring your friends and neighbors... beginners welcome.

Guitar Class

Join us immediately following worship in the Choir Room for about half-hour. If you forgot your guitar or are interested, just stop in and see what this group is all about.

Weekly Activities

- SUNDAY, April 12

9:00 am Christian Ed
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Guitar Class
2:15 pm Chinese Orchestra
4:00 pm Girl Scouts
5:00 pm Bell Rehearsal

- MONDAY, April 13

10:00 am Craft Group
6:00 pm Elders
7:00 pm Council

- TUESDAY, April 14

7:00 pm Boy Scouts

- WEDNESDAY, April 15

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am WOW
3:00 pm Women's Prayer Group
6:00 pm Friendship Bible Study
7:30 pm Choir Practice

- THURSDAY, April 16

6:15 pm Girl Scouts

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Theme of the Week: Christ Is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith

Everything that Jesus did in His life, death, and resurrection is for the sake of the world. His birth is for us; His teaching is for us; His dying is for us; and His rising is for us. In the resurrection, we hear God's "yes" to humanity and to all creation. Christ's rising proclaims forgiveness, overcomes death, and opens the way to new life. The wounds in Jesus' hands and side remain, yet they are signs of healing and hope. As with Thomas, our doubts and fears are met with mercy, and we are drawn into faith and trust, confessing that Jesus is our Lord and our God. Christ is risen indeed!

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: John 20:19–31 Peace Which Surpasses Our Sin

"Peace be with you." This is the heart of the gift we receive through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Peace. Though we are bound in sin and cannot free ourselves, God does not remain distant. In Christ, God comes near with mercy, reconciliation, and forgiveness. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we are restored to relationship with God and one another. This peace is spoken and shared among us, especially in the words of forgiveness: "You are forgiven." In these words, Christ meets us, frees us, and sends us out in peace. *Gracious God, thank You for speaking peace into our lives and restoring us through Your forgiving love in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111 The Lord Is Gracious and Merciful

The psalmist proclaims: "The Lord is gracious and merciful... God remembers the covenant forever." In Christ, God's promise is fulfilled with abundant grace. At the table, Christ gives himself for the life of the world, nourishing us with mercy and renewing us in faith. In Word and Sacrament, we receive again and again the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. As Martin Luther reminds us, it is grace that brings us from sin to righteousness and mercy that continually restores us. *Merciful God, we thank You for Your steadfast love and for feeding us with grace through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 John 5:4–10 Washed in Victory

When we look at the world, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Indeed, the barrage of negative news, feeds the constant awareness of systemic sin and violence around us all the time. Yet the promise of Christ speaks a deeper truth: through faith, we share in Christ's victory. In Baptism, we are joined to Jesus' death and resurrection, marked as God's own, and given new life. The Spirit dwells within us, reminding us that nothing—not sin, not death, not fear—can separate us from God's love. We belong to Christ, and Christ abides with us. *Living God, thank You for claiming us in Baptism and strengthening us to trust in Your victory over all that threatens life. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Job 19:25–27 My Redeemer Lives

“I know that my Redeemer lives.” Job’s confession is one of deep trust in God’s promise of life beyond suffering and death. In Christ’s resurrection, we see that death does not have the final word. We confess the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, trusting that God will raise us to new life. This hope is not abstract but grounded in God’s faithful love revealed in Jesus. Even in the face of death, we hold fast to the promise of life renewed. *God of life, through the resurrection of Your Son, renew our hope and lead us into the joy of everlasting life. Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: John 21:15–19 Feed My Sheep

Jesus calls and restores Peter, entrusting him with the care of the community. In this calling, we see how Christ continues to shepherd the church through those called to serve. Pastors and lay leaders are given to nurture, teach, and guide God’s people through Word and Sacrament. Together, the whole community is called to care for one another in love, following the Good Shepherd. Even in times of uncertainty and struggle, Christ remains present, leading us toward life. *Good Shepherd, guide those who serve Your church, and help us all to care for one another in Your love. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 1:17–2:3 Like Newborn Infants

Like newborn infants, we are invited to long for the pure spiritual milk that nurtures faith. Through Baptism, we are given new birth and welcomed into God’s family. This new life grows as we hear God’s Word and are shaped by grace. The call to holy living is not a burden but a response to the love we have received. God’s Word feeds, strengthens, and sustains us as we grow in faith and love. *Loving God, nourish us through Your Word and grow in us a living faith that reflects Your grace. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 4 Resting in God’s Peace

In times of distress, we seek a peace that the world cannot give. The resurrection of Christ assures us that even in death, we are held in God’s care. Scripture speaks of sleep as a sign of trust, for we rest in the promise that God will awaken us to new life. “In peace I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.” This promise sustains us through every trial and gives us hope beyond fear. *God of peace, grant us rest in Your promises and confidence in the new life You give through Jesus Christ. Amen.*