

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD—EASTER DAY

Easter Light—Resurrection Light
April 5, 2026



AS WE GATHER

Are you wearing a new outfit for Easter? The custom of putting on new clothes for Easter Day has a long Christian history. In the earliest centuries after the ascension of Christ, newly baptized Christians wore white garments of new linen as a visible sign of the newness that being baptized had brought into their lives. Soon it became a tradition that all the faithful would join the newly baptized in arraying themselves on Easter in a new outfit to symbolize the new life that Jesus, through His resurrection, made a reality for all believers. The new clothes were much more than a fashion statement; they were a statement of faith. No matter what we are wearing today as individuals, together we share the best eternal clothing there is!

✧ PREPARATION ✧

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Pastor: May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Pastor: The light of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

LSB 463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

- 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!**
- 3 **Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. 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!**

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HYMN LSB 480 He's Risen, He's Risen

- 1 He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death's prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.**
- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.**
- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.**
- 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.**
- 5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.**

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**LSB 464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done
ref Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

- 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.
Alleluia!**
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!**
- 3 The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!**

**4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
Alleluia!**

**5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee.
Alleluia! Refrain**

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

People: **Jesus our Lord was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.**

Pastor: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

People: **God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our creator and preserver, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are stained by sin from our very beginnings and we have sinned again and again in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have often turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for all our many sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us for Jesus' sake, and by the power of the Holy Spirit direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us victory over all that oppresses us and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Pastor: In His boundless mercy, God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him for restoration and renewal. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you strong in the Holy Spirit and grant you a life on earth

in which you live in baptismal grace and joyfully tell of His greatness,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 482 This Joyful Eastertide

**1 This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain**

**ref Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen;
But now has Christ arisen!**

**2 Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver: Refrain**

**3 My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number: Refrain**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING *Acts 10:34–42*

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no
partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is
acceptable to him. 36 As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news
of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), 37 you yourselves know what
happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that
John proclaimed: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit
and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed

by the devil, for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 16*

People: Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge.

Women: I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You." As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

Men: The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.

People: The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot.

Women: The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

Men: I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

People: For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE *Colossians 3:1–4*

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

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

People: Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 28:1–10*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he[a] lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

All

**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 exalted, throned above;
He lives to rule his Church in love.**

All women

**3 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with his eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.**

4 *Hosannas only*

All men

**5 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.**

All

**6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.**

7 *Hosannas only*

All

**8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

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SERMON

HYMN 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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CREED

Nicene Creed

**People: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \times of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING + BELLS OF ZION "All Creatures of Our God and King"

OFFERTORY Worthy Is the Lamb

Verse 1

**Thank You for the cross Lord
Thank You for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came and gave amazing grace**

Verse 2

**Thank You for this love, Lord
Thank You for the nail-pierced hands
Washed me in Your cleansing flow
Now all I know Your forgiveness and embrace**

Chorus

**Worthy is the Lamb seated on the throne
Crown You now with many crowns
You reign victorious**

**High and lifted up Jesus Son of God
The Darling of heaven crucified
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb
Vamp
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb**

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

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 proper that we should give thanks to You, our gracious heavenly Father, for in Your goodness You have given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. By the guiding of Your Spirit direct our ways that we be filled with His presence. Kindle in us the fire of Your love and grant that we ever make the good confession of our faith. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SANCTUS HYMN LSB 507 Holy, Holy, Holy

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,

Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy are You, O God, almighty and most merciful Lord. We thank You for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be our Redeemer, saving us from the fearsome power of sin, death, and the devil and blessing our

lives from before our birth to beyond our death with Your abiding love. Invited by Your grace, we come to Your Table with gratitude and joy. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we grow confidently and securely as people of faith, filled with Your peace and awaiting the eternal feast to come in glory everlasting.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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 \times 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 \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (*DS2, p. 180 in hymnal*)

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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

**1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,**

**Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced 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!**

**3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!**

**4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
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!**

**△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!**

LSB 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

- 1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!**
Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!
From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence.
- 2 Jesus lives! To Him the throne**
High above all things is given.
I shall go where He is gone,
Live and reign with Him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.
- 3 Jesus lives! For me He died,**
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to Him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.
- 4 Jesus lives! I know full well**
Nothing me from Him shall sever.
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.
- 5 Jesus lives! And now is death**
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

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LSB 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.**
Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom. Refrain
- ref Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;**
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo;
And in its conquest His might did show. Refrain**
- 3 The angel said to them, “Do not fear!
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;
Only the grave cloths are lying there.” Refrain**
- 4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done;
Even the battle with sin is won.” Refrain**
- 5 Christ has arisen; He sets us free;
Alleluia, to Him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. Refrain**

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POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord” (DS2, p. 181 in hymnal)
**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.
Let ev’ryone who seeks 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 THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord God, heavenly Father, ruler of all things, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come through this blessed Meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this wondrous Sacrament, we may die daily to sin through our Baptism and rise new and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your glory for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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: **Amen.**

HYMN **LSB 465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds**

- 1 **Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
 In praise of love that still abounds:
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
 Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
 Repeat their song of glory here:
 "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

- 2 **Eternal is the gift He brings,
 Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
 Now still He comes to give us life
 And by His presence stills all strife.
 Christ has triumphed! He is living!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

- 3 ***Hosannas only***

- △ 4 **Adoring praises now we bring
 And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
 "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
 Be to the Father and our Lord,
 To Spirit blest, most holy God,
 All the glory, never ending!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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