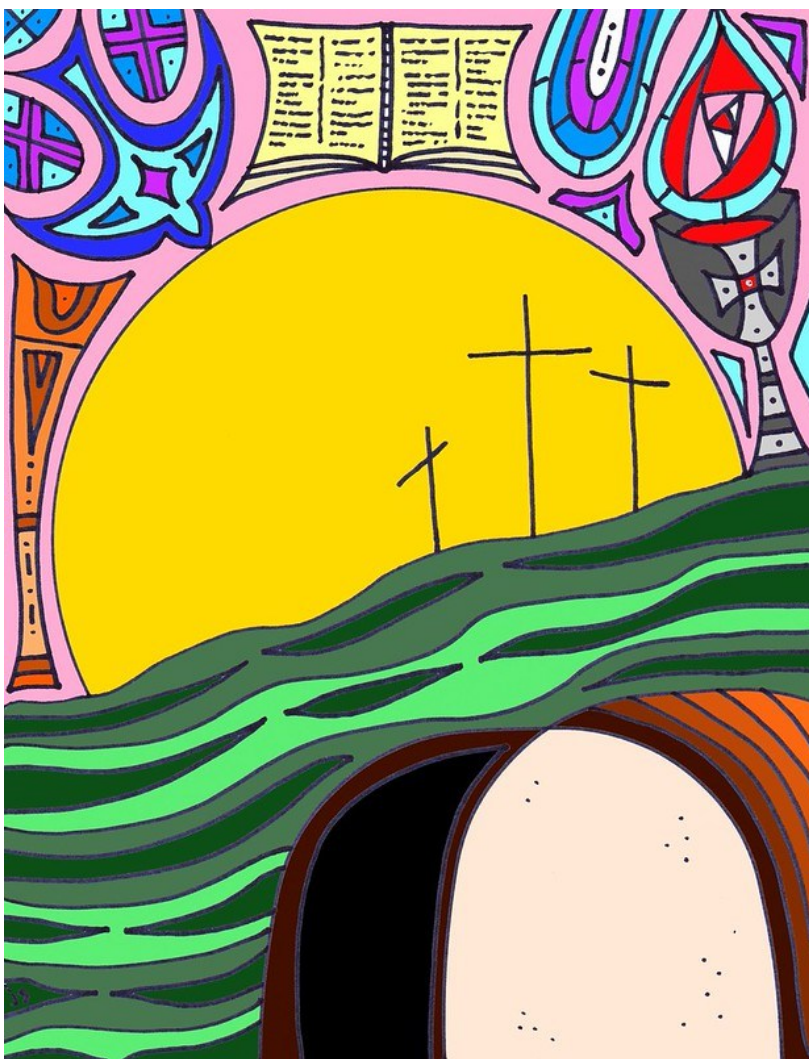




**Christ
Lutheran**
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385
(219) 462-6660 • clcvalpo.org



EASTER SUNDAY
April 5, 2026

We welcome you to Christ Lutheran Church! We are a community of people sharing God's love through Christ and growing together in faith.

We celebrate all the ways we are made in the image of God, seeking to see God in everyone. We honor and respect each person's age, ethnicity, family composition, gender identity, gender expression, life history, mental well-being, physical ability, relationship status, sexual orientation, skin color, and socioeconomic standing. Together, we strive to love and serve our neighbor and all creation, including working toward racial and social justice. We would love to walk with you on this creative adventure* of faith, grace, and love.

** The first sermon ever preached at Christ Lutheran was titled "A Call to Creative Adventure."*

ABOUT WORSHIP

We gather to worship weekly to hear and remember our shared hope: the life, death, and resurrection of Christ makes all things new, even us.

You will find everything that happens in worship printed in this bulletin, with hymns found in the red hymnals ("ELW") in the seats in front of you.

If you have a prayer request, note it on a yellow card from the seatback holder and pass it to an usher; the other side is for any information you would like about Christ Lutheran. Please feel welcome to remain seated as necessary during the service.

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN CHURCH!

God's people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to the whole community when the smallest of us are present! Sitting with parents and learning to treasure times of worship is the foundation for helping build a growing faith in a child's life. There's some noise and movement that we expect from little ones - feel free to make use of the **activity bags, doodle pads, bookshelf in the overflow area and cry room at the back of the sanctuary** as needed. Whatever sacrifice of energy and effort you make to include your children in worship is multiplied as the good news of God's love takes root in their lives!

WHEN NURSERY CARE IS NEEDED DURING WORSHIP

A fully equipped and staffed Nursery is available for both infants and toddlers during all services. The Nursery is located west of our gathering area in **Room 110**.

RESTROOMS

Men's and women's restrooms off the Gathering Area and Church Hall have changing tables, as does the all-gender restroom near the nursery. A second all-gender restroom is through the Vestry off the East hallway, past the Welcome Center.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

Our services are on video, and occasional photographs are taken for our website and e-mail news. If you have concerns, please speak to a church staff member.

Hearing assistance devices are available to those who need help with listening to the service and are located at the entrance to the sanctuary, or please see an Usher for assistance.

A Reminder: Please turn off all cell phones during worship services.

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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

*This Joyful Eastertide
Good Christians All, Rejoice
Easter Fanfare*

arr. McFadden
arr. Geschke
Hildebrand

WELCOME

If you are joining us for the first time, welcome! We'd love to meet you, or if there's anything you'd like to know about the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church, please consider [filling out a Connection Card online](#) (you can point your phone at the graphic to the right) or using a yellow Connection Card in the pew holders.



***Prayer requests** can be posted to the livechat or use a yellow Prayer Request (on the backside of the Connection Card) and give them to an usher.*

*If you are worshipping with us via livestream, consider **preparing your space for Communion**: light a candle (if appropriate and safe), and have a plate with bread/cracker/tortilla and a cup for wine or grape juice (or an empty cup as a sign Jesus is sufficient in one or both elements).*

EASTER ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW #619 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives!*

(st. 1-3 UNISON; st. 4 – CHOIR; st. 5 – HIGH VOICES;

st. 6 – LOW VOICES; st. 8 – HARMONY)

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

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.

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!

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!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of † the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Children: This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A silence is kept before the prayer.

God of new creation,
from the womb of earth
you raised the Lord of life:
may we receive the word of women
who braved the soldier's spears
and met him in the dawning light;
may we live with morning joy
that love will never die,
through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are invited forward for a time together.

READING: Jeremiah 31:1-6

God's final word is always "Yes." Because God's love is everlasting, God always remains faithful. Ancient Israel is assured that it will be rebuilt and have plentiful crops. The people of God too will ultimately be reunited.

¹ At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

² Thus says the LORD:
The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,

³ the LORD appeared to him from far away.
I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!

Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines
and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant
and shall enjoy the fruit.

⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
“Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the LORD our God.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

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

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done*

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Refrain:



All: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (To Stanzas)

Stanzas:



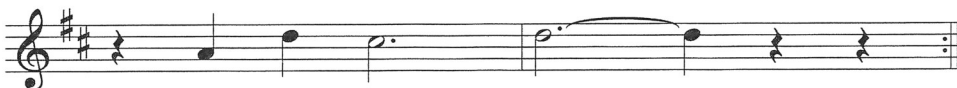
All: 1. The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
All: 2. The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
Choir: 3. The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
All: 4. He broke the age - bound chains of hell;
All: 5. Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
But Christ their le - gions has dis - persed.
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
The bars from heav'n's high por - tals fell.
From death's sting free your ser - vants too

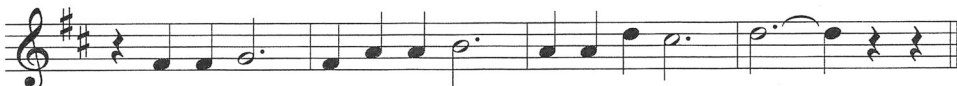


Now be the song of praise be - gun.
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst.
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head!
Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell.
That we may live and sing to you.



Al - le - lu - ia! (To Stanza 2)
Al - le - lu - ia! (To Stanza 3)
Al - le - lu - ia! (To Stanza 4)
Al - le - lu - ia! (To Stanza 5)
Al - le - lu - ia! (To Final Refrain)

Final Refrain:



All: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

NICENE CREED

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS

Our prayers draw on the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle and the Church's calendar of Commemorations—further information is found each week at the end of the bulletin.

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Give your peace and resurrection life to the people and churches of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Slovenia. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain. Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection, remembering especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, Lucas Cranach, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Mikael Agricola. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*We invite those worshiping by livestream to share a sign of peace in the chat, and for those in person we turn to offer them our greeting of peace before sharing a sign of peace with one another: **Peace be with you!***

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

This congregation serves our neighbors, community, and the world through the offerings of its members and guests. Because offerings are never just about us, this month we are sharing a portion of your gifts with CoAction coaction.care.

If you wish to give electronically, use the QR code or browse to our secure on-line portal at clcvalpo.org/give or use [our CLC app](#) (download at clcvalpo.org/app).



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Shepperd

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head! Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead! Gratefully our hearts adore him, as his light once more appears; bowing down in joy before him, rising up from griefs and tears. Death and hell before him bending, see him rise, the victor now, angels on his steps attending, glory round his wounded brow.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.

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,
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.", "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.", "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise." The music features simple, rhythmic patterns with some phrasing slurs.

The pastor begins the prayer and all join in singing:

SANCTUS

(An ancient practice invites us to make the sign of the cross in honor of Jesus at the words "Blessed is he.")

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,", "heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -", "san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who", and "comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The music features more complex rhythmic patterns, including dotted rhythms and eighth notes.

TABLE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Children: The Spirit makes us one. We pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

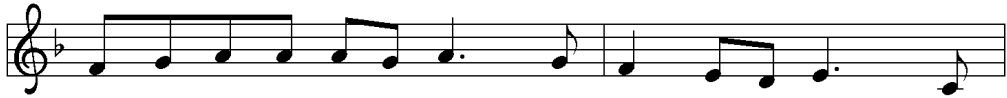
*The pastor invites those worshipping via **livestream** to commune:*

The body of Christ, given for you.
Amen (receive the bread)

The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen (receive the cup)

In-person distribution: When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. **WINE** is lighter-colored and **GRAPE JUICE** is dark; they are received via individual cups in the trays. **USED GLASSES** are placed in the basket located near the ramp. **GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE**, please indicate to the server that you require this.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



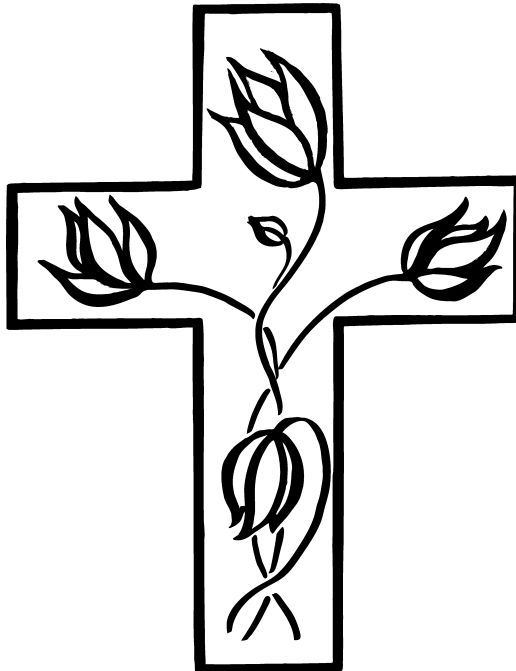
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.



COMMUNION MUSIC

Fanfare

Clarke

ELW #376 *Thine Is the Glory*

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

ELW #362 *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

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!

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!

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!

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!

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands as the minister continues.
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

INVITATIONS

(During the singing of the hymn, the congregation is invited to join the Sanctuary Choir for singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" as the postlude; music scores will be provided).

BLESSING

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.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #365

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is in a 4/4 time signature and features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady piano accompaniment.

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n-ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Children join the pastors to send us in mission.

DISMISSAL

Children: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus (Messiah)

Handel

Worship Leaders

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Acolyte	Reid Venstrom	Noah DeJesus
Lector	Darla Hernandez	Doug Schmidt
Prayer Assistant	Darla Hernandez	Doc Knauff
Communion Assistants	Phyllis Schroeder Scott Steinwart Barbara Clements Darla Hernandez	Holly Knauff Violet Furuness Amy Knauff Joey Rodeck
Ushers	Don MacMillan Ben Lieske Lucas Lieske	Doc Knauff
Sound/Light	Lance Nolting	Tony Reinhold
Livestream Tech	—————	Adam Gibson-Even
Pastors	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr. Rev. Erica Gibson-Even	
Director of Music Ministries	Brian Bartusch	
Worship Participants	Phil Hahn, Luke Venstrom, trumpet Wayne Coil, Sophia Anasis, trombone Jack Barlow, timpani Celebration Ringers Handbell Ensemble Sanctuary Choir	

EASTER FLOWERS

Becky Bakalyar ~ In Honor of Janet Glass // In Honor of Jason and Sherrie Ogle

Vickie and Gregg Copeland ~ In Honor of Family

Sally Ecklund-Baker ~ In Memory of Jacob Baker

Michael and Lois Felten ~ In Memory of our Parents and Brother

Phil Hahn ~ In Honor of my Daughters // In Memory of Laurel Hahn

Bill and Diana Iltzsche ~ In Memory of Karen Ring

Margaret Johnson ~ In Memory of Don and Mindy

Rachel Lieske ~ In Honor of our Children's Grandparents

Marilyn McGawn ~ In Memory of Malcolm

Tom Muchesko ~ In Honor of Betty Waligura // In Memory of Karen Muchesko

Dale Owens ~ In Memory of DeWayne Ellis

Katherine and Robert Sirko

Cheryl Slack ~ In Memory of Parents and Grandparents

Ellen Swayne ~ In Honor of my Family // In Memory of Gladys and Charles Swayne

Sherry Taraskiewicz ~ In Memory of Larry

Cheryl Watson ~ In Memory of Ken Watson



COMMEMORATIONS

Week of April 5

April 6

Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

April 9 ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

April 10 ~ Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

This week we pray for the churches and people of **The Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia**

We give thanks for:

- the rich legacies that this area has long embodied
- those who kept both the people and their faith alive during years of repression
- those pursuing peace and reconciliation between the different ethnic and religious groups
- the resurgence of the ecumenical witness of churches in recent years.

We pray for:

- a continual healing of historic memories and pains that have been mutually inflicted
- those who continue to experience marginalization and injustice, especially the Roma
- religion to be a means of healing rather than of further separation and exploitation
- the nurturing and sustaining of pluralistic societies in the Balkans.



Strongly Sung Alleluias

In Matthew's telling of the Easter story, Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" are the first to experience the resurrection of Jesus (28:1). Earthquake, descending angel, and convulsing grave-guards all attest to this miraculous feat of God's love defeating death forever. The angelic invitation to the women to behold the bodiless resting place of Jesus is met with evangelistic fervor; the women race off full of "fear and great joy" (v. 8) to tell the others. Their run from the empty tomb, however, is interrupted by the risen Christ. A simple word of greeting from Jesus sends the women to the ground; they "took hold of his feet, and worshiped him" (v. 9).

What did this first Easter-morning worship look like? Did the women recite traditional Jewish prayers? Were they moved to sing? Might this worshipful moment be the time and place the first Easter "alleluia" was uttered? Perhaps they harkened back to Psalm 118 and sang to Jesus, "The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation" (v. 14). At the feet of Jesus, the women found strength as they bore witness to God's liberation and the power of resurrection. This was the Jesus they would share with the other disciples and, by extension, the world. This is the Jesus they would sing out to others in Galilee and beyond. A new day had dawned; Easter had arrived. Alleluia!

The church gathers on this Easter Day to join in the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen. We gather to share in the wonder and joy of Mary and Mary, whose worshipful witness has become our own. We join in the prayers, the confession, the Easter fervor that knows the salvation of our God, our strength and our song. A new day, an Easter Day has come. "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Indeed, let us rejoice, worship, and sing out strong: Alleluia! Alleluia!

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26201.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Portions printed under OneLicense.net License #A-711129.

Cover art permission by Stushie Art.