

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
EASTER SUNDAY**

We joyously greet all worshippers in the name of the risen Lord. Easter is the most glorious day in the Christian calendar. On this day we rejoice in Christ's victory over sin and death. Praise God with great enthusiasm. Christ is risen indeed!

Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

Entrance Hymn

Please stand for the last verse of the hymn.

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

**6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!**

EASTER PRAYER

P Each dawn proclaims resurrection. Every sunrise tells of a new beginning and all creation sings for joy. From the start of time, Divine Creator, you painted each day with light, fashioned beauty from mountain heights to valley lows and caused praise to whistle through trees and splash on seashores. Holy and loving are you, O God, for each dawn is a resurrection gift, a possibility to deepen relationships, forgive ourselves and those near to us, make peace and share love. Every sunrise rolls back the stone of doubt and lets the alleluia loose. Wondrous and great are you, O God.

C Amen

EASTER READING Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵ 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; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Please Sit

MESSAGE - *Pastor Matt Wallis*

HYMN “*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*”



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.

- 3 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Easter Creed

We believe in an Easter God, who transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope.

We believe God is always working for good, changing every Good Friday nightmare into an Easter dream of new possibility.

We believe in the risen Christ, who befriends us on our roads of searching and worry; who touches us through song and silence, word and gesture; who calls us by name to enter the dance of life.

We believe in the Spirit, the hidden presence behind every resurrection, who beckons us to leave tomblike safety and trust the gracious invitation to live joyfully.

We believe the Spirit is always renewing the church and making us a people who practice kindness, encourage beauty and work for justice and freedom.

We believe we are an Easter people, a sign that with God all things are possible. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BENEDICTION

P May alleluias ring from shore to shore.
May trumpets echo from mountain to mountain.
May every heart know that Christ is risen.
And may you never be afraid for Christ has triumphed over
the grave.

C Amen.

HYMN OF DEPARTURE *“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!
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!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise Him, all ye 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!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS OF DEPARTURE

P He is Risen!

C He is Risen Indeed!

Why Seek the Living among the Dead?

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The good news of Easter shines through the shadow of death. Light and life have come.

Death is swallowed up in victory. Jesus is the victor. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The stone is rolled away. The grave gives up; it is empty. Jesus is alive! He is not among the dead but the living. Our redeemer lives! The bonds of the tomb are broken. The grave has been unlocked, and the Son of David holds the key. The angels announce the good news: "He is not here, but has risen" (Luke 24:6)! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The temple that was torn down has been rebuilt in three days. The sign of Jonah has been given. Jesus is risen, the bright Morning Star, with healing in His wings. He has been raised for our justification, for our forgiveness. The Father accepts the offered sacrifice. Heaven and earth are reconciled; God is at peace with mankind. The words spoken in death ring out with life; "It is finished" (John 19:30). Indeed, it is finished! Indeed, He is risen! Alleluia!

