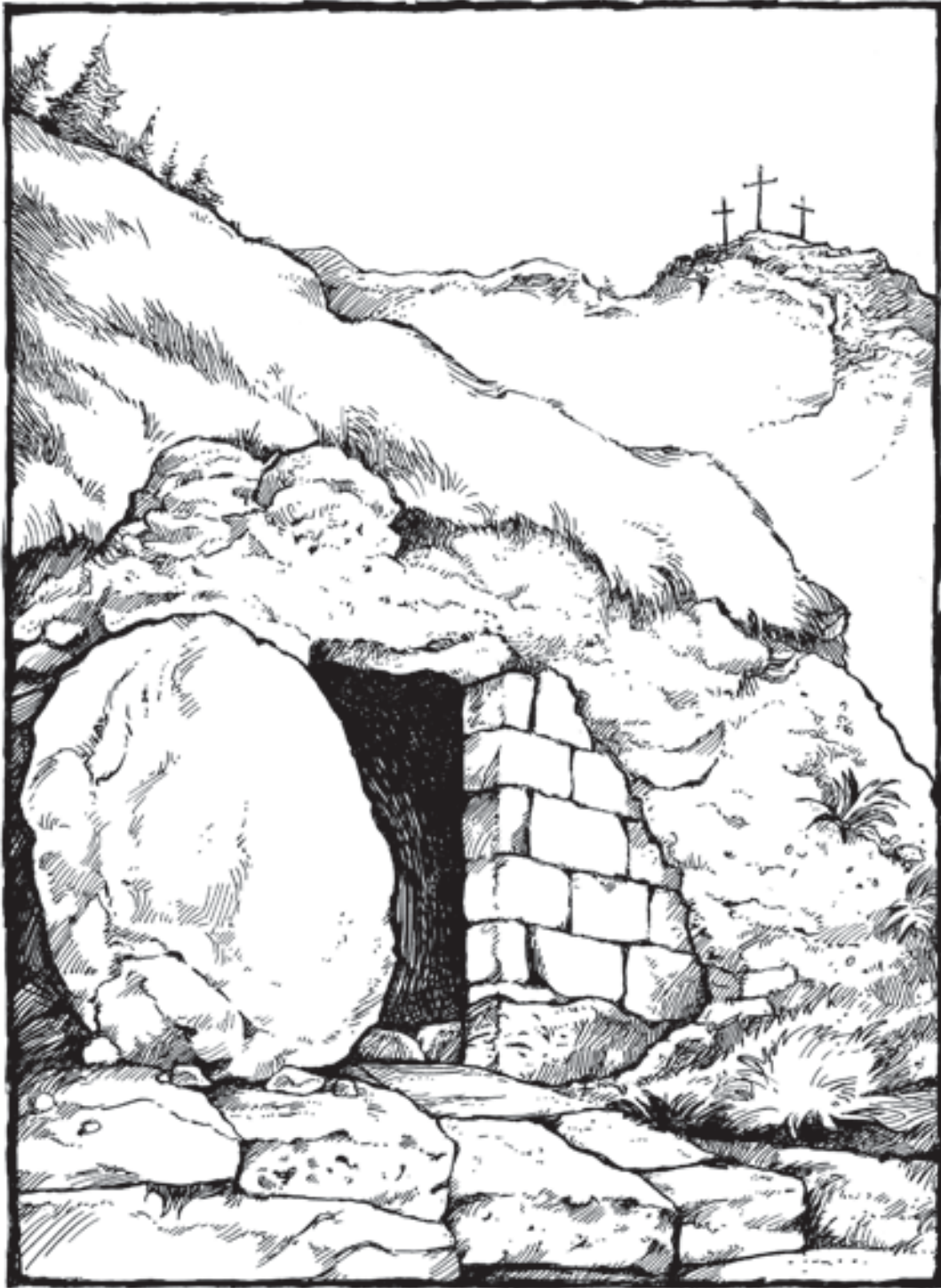


“He has risen!”

-- Mark 16:6 -



EASTER SUNRISE

March 31, 2024

Good Morning and a blessed Easter to you! What a joy it is to worship the living Lord with you! *A little bit about this early morning worship...*

The Easter Sunrise service has long been an historic tradition within the Christian Church. Dating back to, perhaps, even the 2nd century, Christians would gather together late on *Saturday night* in an "Easter Vigil" (waiting and watching) to eagerly celebrate Jesus' Resurrection the next day. At midnight, the congregation would break out in a loud cry, "He is Risen, Alleluia!" That's the reason for how quiet it is this morning ~ we're waiting together for Jesus' tomb to burst open with his blessings and our praises!

The Easter Sunrise service is a lasting remnant of that Easter Vigil from long ago. It was often a time to remember baptism's blessings and the close connection we have to Christ's death and resurrection through baptism. This morning, we will celebrate our Savior's Resurrection by focusing on what it means for us today, and our eternal future.

May the Lord bless us as we worship Him!

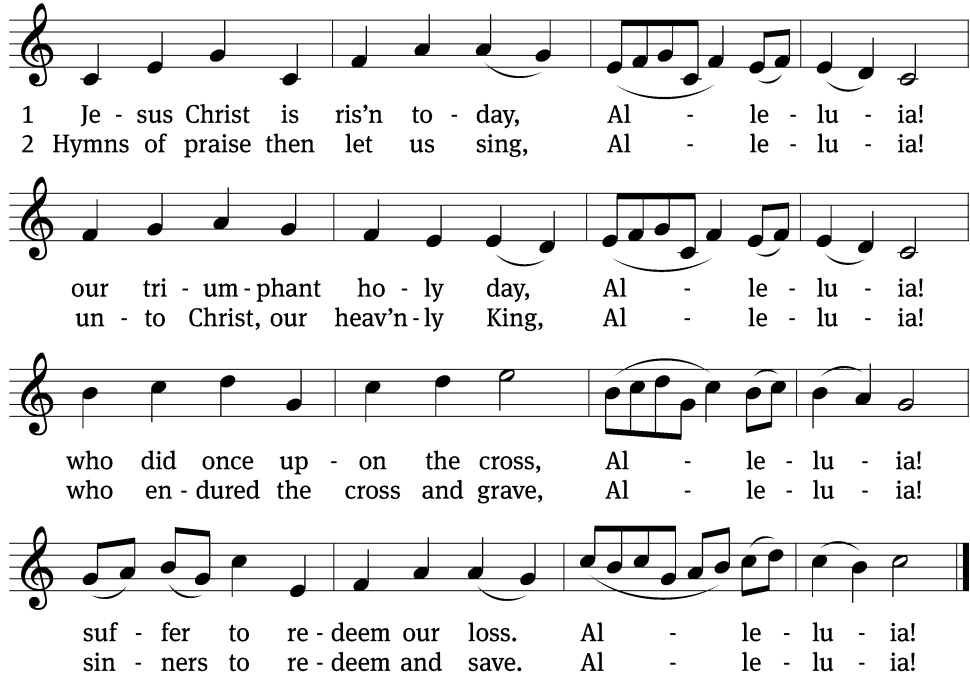
Why Do we Celebrate Easter:

The truth we celebrate today has the highest importance for all of our lives. God says the meaning of Easter is simply this:

- + Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead is *God's proof* to us that he has accepted Jesus' life and death as payment for our sins. *We are freely forgiven* because of Jesus.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection *gives us new purpose* as we live to glorify God.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection *assures* us that God will one day *raise us from the dead* to live before him in a perfect world.
- + Jesus Christ's resurrection is *God's proof* that the *Christian faith is the true faith* that he wants all people to know and believe.

OUR EASTER PRAISE

Hymn: 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!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, 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!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!

CW 438 sts. 1-2

Easter Responses:

Leader: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L Christ, the Lamb who was slain, now lives in the glory of the Father.

C Christ is risen!

L Let us come before him in worship, honor, and joyous thanksgiving!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L Our Redeemer was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. (*Romans 4:25*)

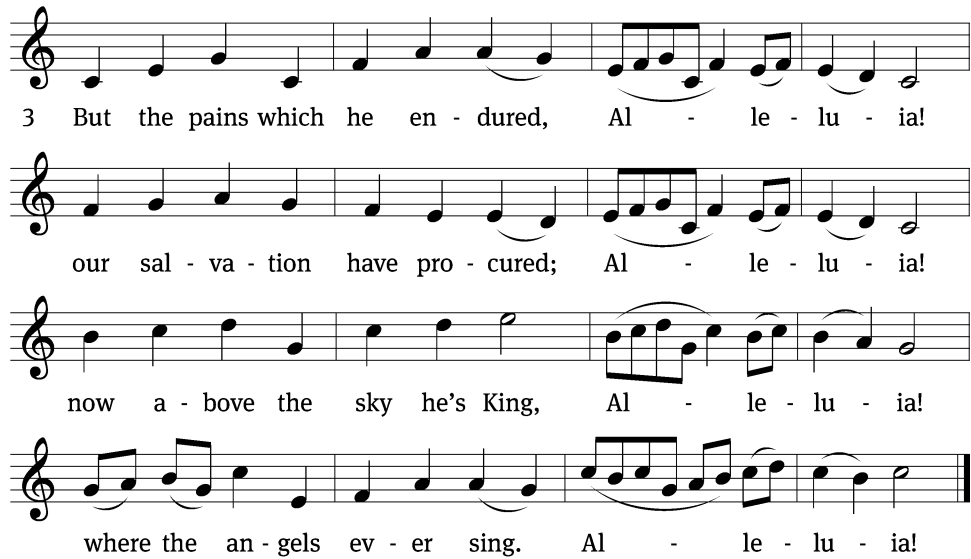
C Christ is risen!

L What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? (*Romans 6:1*)

C By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? (*Romans 6:2*)

L We count ourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. We were buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life (*Romans 6:4*)

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!

CW 438 sts. 3

L In his great mercy, God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (*1 Peter 1:3*)

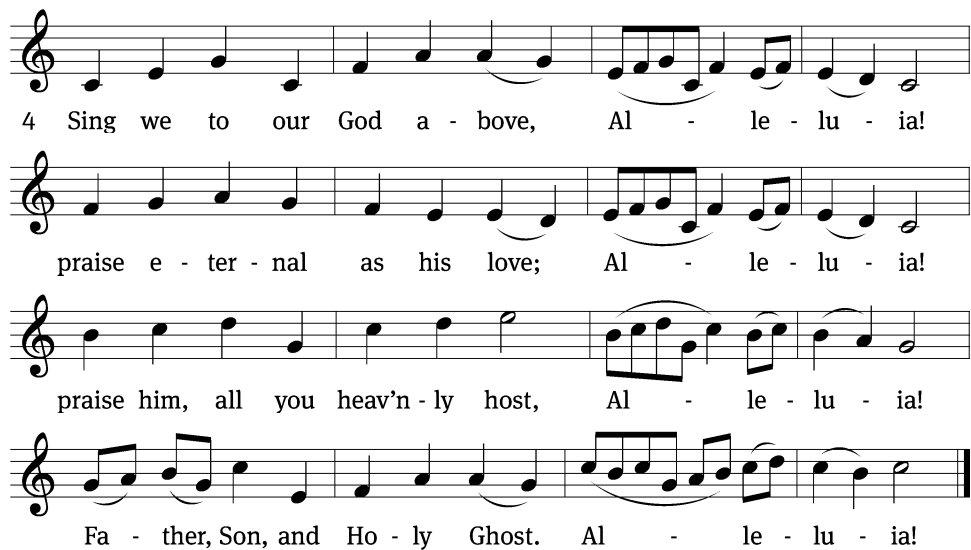
C Alleluia

L We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. (*1 Thess 4:14*)

C He is risen!

L Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. (*Revelation 12:10*)

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

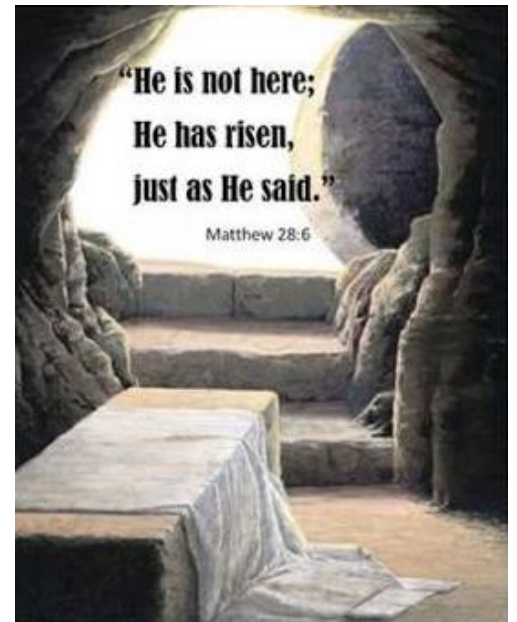
CW 438 sts. 4

The Easter Readings and Hymns

The Account of Jesus' Resurrection

The Empty Tomb - Luke 24:1-8

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " ⁸Then they remembered his words.



Faith's Response: Morning Breaks upon the Tomb

Christian Worship (1993) 159



1 Morn - ing breaks up - on the tomb; Je - sus
 2 You who are of death a - fraid, Tri - umph
 3 Chris - tian, dry your flow - ing tears; Chase your



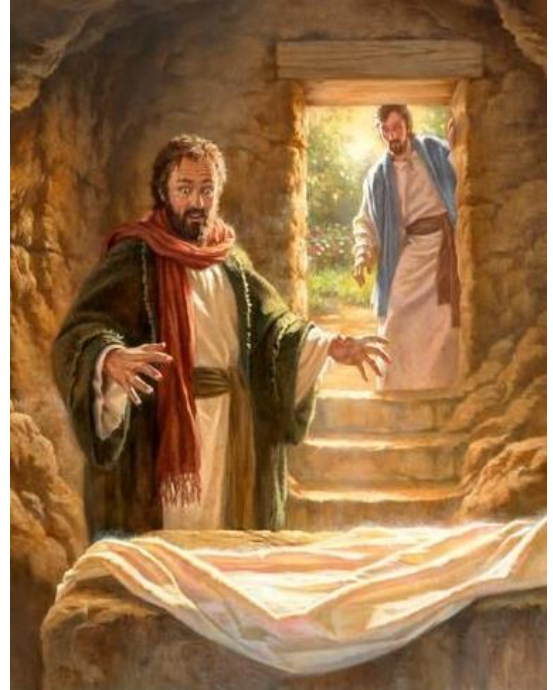
scat - ters all its gloom. Day of tri - umph through
 in the scat - tered shade. Drive your anx - ious cares
 un - be - liev - ing fears. Look on his de - sert -



the skies, See the glo - rious Sav - ior rise.
 a - way; See the place where Je - sus lay.
 ed grave; Doubt no more his pow'r to save.

Peter and John find the Empty Tomb - John 20:1-8

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.⁶ Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there,⁷ as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.



Faith's Response: He's Risen, He's Risen

Christian Worship 445, v. 1-3



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.



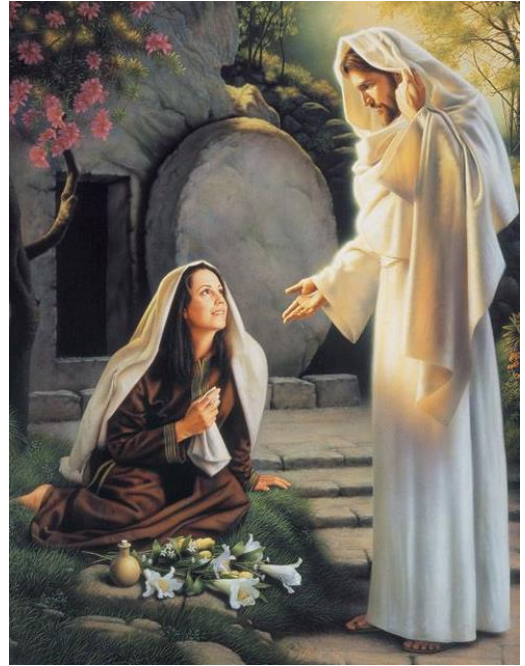
Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.

Jesus Appears to Mary - John 20:11-18

But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him."¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.¹⁵ "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.



Faith's Response: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Christian Worship 465, v. 1, 2, 4



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" saints on
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O



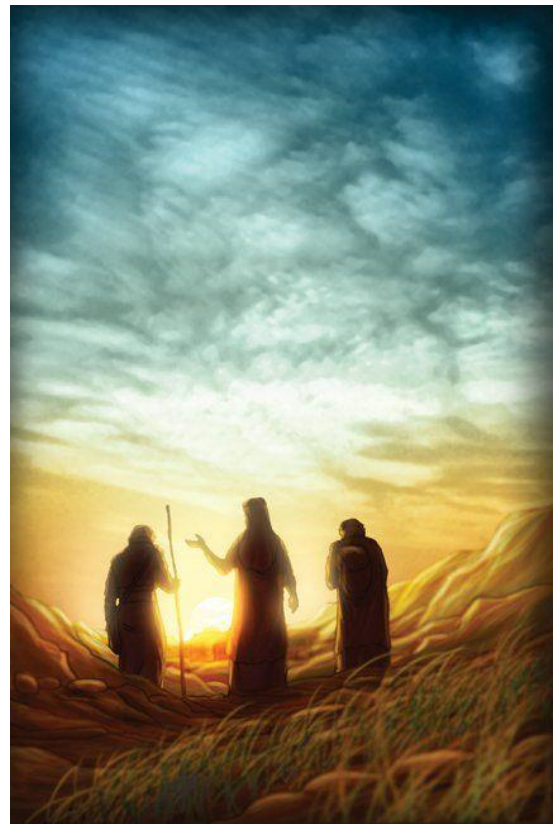
earth and an - gels say. Raise your joys and
 fight, the bat - tle won. Lo, our sun's e -
 death, is now your sting? Once he died our



tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
 clipse is o'er; lo, he sets in blood no more.
 souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

Jesus Appears to His Disciples on the Road to Emmaus - Luke 24:13-32

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. ²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"



Faith's Response: Awake My Heart with Gladness

Christian Worship 443, v. 1, 3-4



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness— see what to -
3 This is a sight that glad - dens— what peace it
4 Now I will cling for - ev - er to Christ, my



day is done! Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes
does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the
Sav - ior dear. My Lord will leave me nev - er; with



forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was
joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er
him I need not fear. He rends death's i - ron



laid where our bed must be made when to the
shake, no foe shall ev - er take the hope which
chain; he breaks through sin and pain. He shat - ters



realms of light our spir - it wings its flight.
God's own Son in love for me has won.
hell's dark thrall; I fol - low him through all.

Our Thank-Offering

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” - Colossians 3:17

Our offerings are both an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church’s work. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute. If you’d like to leave an offering, you may place it in the designated location in the back of the sanctuary or use one of the electronic means listed below.

Ways to Give Electronically

Choose one of 3 Simple, Safe Options for Offering Thanks



- Text “give” to 651-401-1400
- Go to www.StJohnsLutheran.com/give
- Scan the QR code

Stand

Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

- L** Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.
- C** **We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.**
- L** Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.
- C** **You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.**
- L** With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan’s head and have removed our guilt.
- C** **You are risen!**
- L** Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.
- C** **You are risen indeed!**
- L** Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.
- C** **Alleluia!**

- L** Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.
- C** **We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.**
- L** Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.
- C** **He is risen!**
- L** As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.
- C** **He is risen indeed!**
- L** Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.
- C** **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia!**

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

The Words of Institution

- L** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”
- Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”
- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

A note to our guests: God’s Word speaks of the spiritual blessings of this Sacrament (Matthew 26:28). God’s Word also warns us against the spiritual danger in sharing this Holy meal (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Because we deeply care about you and don’t want to see anyone’s faith harmed, we ask that only those persons who are members of our church or fellowship join us in this intimate expression of oneness (1 Corinthians 10:17; Amos 3:3). We are not judging your love for Jesus; we are showing our love for Jesus by obeying his commands (John 14:15,21). Please feel free to ask one of our pastors for more information. We are eager to listen and share over an open Bible. Thanks!

The Distribution: O Sons and Daughters of the King



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, whom heav'n - ly
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, the faith - ful
 3 An an - gel bade their sor - row flee, for thus he
 4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them
 5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!
 wom - en went their way to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
 spoke un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
 came their Lord most dear and said, "My peace be with you here."
 had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.



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

- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he,
 "my hands, my feet, my body see;
 and doubt not, but believe in me."
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God," he cried.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 Blessèd are they that have not seen
 and yet whose faith has constant been;
 in life eternal they shall reign.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days
 to God your hearts and voices raise
 in laud and jubilee and praise.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

God's Blessing

- L** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Be seated

Hymn: I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Christian Worship 441, v. 1-3,5,7-8



- 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 bless me with his love; he lives to
5 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 all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



- once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 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!

Thanks for joining us today! We'd love for you to stay for Easter Brunch provided and served by our Teens and Youth.

*We also invite you to join us for our **Easter Festival Service** today at 10:00.*

*All of God's promises, comfort and hope are yours today and forever...because your Savior lives!
On behalf of Pastor Harbach, Pastor Zimpelmann and their families, God grant you a blessed Easter!*

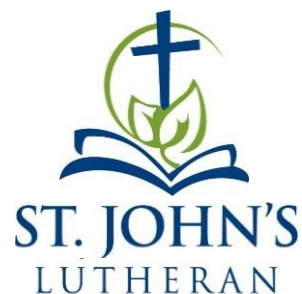
CCLI license #2963929 and CCS license #8000

Staff

Dennis Harbach | Pastor
pastordh@stjohnslutheran.com
(262) 402-2664

Jon Zimpelmann | Pastor
Jon.zimpelmann@gmail.com
(651) 829-4574

Michelle Schulte | Office Admin
Admin@StJohnsLutheran.com
(651) 438-3730



Visit us online:



StJohnsLutheran.com



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – WELS