Easter Sunday

this is w

Matthew 28:1-10 April 9, 2023



Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day ~ April 9, 2023

WELCOME

We welcome you in the name of Christ. We love welcoming guests/visitors and encourage you to complete one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering basket, or scan this QR Code with your smart phone to complete the visitor card digitally. We have a gift for you at our Welcome Desk – please stop by after worship. You are invited to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet. All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing! For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this booklet. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken by the whole congregation. We stand for portions of our worship service. Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We are grateful that the prevalence of COVID in our community has decreased, and we do not require masks in the building. However, we continue to follow the current CDC guidance and we request that anyone who experiences symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, stay home, self-isolate and get tested. Please wear a well-fitted mask if you have a known exposure to COVID in the past 10 days. Wearing a mask for any reason is always welcomed. Thank you for doing all you can to help care for one another by reducing the spread of germs in our community!

OUR WORSHIP

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God's constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Narrative Lectionary (a four-year cycle of scripture readings in biblical order), we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time. For details, see "About Our Worship" on the last page.

Worship will be live-streamed this morning. Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with the Wellstream service at 11:00 am allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community for a service of Holy Communion. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex or Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org).

OTHER NOTES

- Amplification devices for the hearing impaired are available from ushers or at the Welcome Desk.
- A restroom is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).

MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S GRACE

Open # Authentic # Relational # Serving
Pastor Lauren Fanes Pastor Alex Zuber

If you're interested in why we do what we do, follow the notes in this column.

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God's people to worship.

PRELUDE

Brass Quintet

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

11:00 Easter Affirmation (H. Willoughby)

Combined Children's Choir

(We stand)

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ Jesus Christ Is Risen Today EASTER HYMN

ELW 365

The congregation turns to face the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

~see next page~



We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship. This hymn sets the tone for the day.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

8:30 Glory to God, Glory in the Highest (Peruvian traditional) Choir
11:00 A Song Of Quiet Praise (J. Kimball, 2001) Combined Children's Choir

This prayer collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Receive our unending love and devotion as we celebrate today the gracious gift of your love. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(We sit)

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

"the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than

just spectators.

Liturgy, from the Greek, means

FIRST READING ~ Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

34Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Psalms were the original Hymns in Holy Scripture, used by God's people for personal and corporate devotion. They continue to be prayed, sung and read by God's people all over the world as a rich and honest expression of faith.

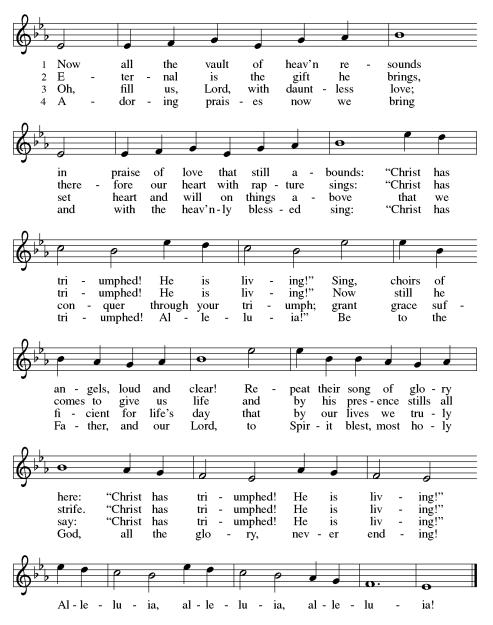
PSALM 118:19-26 All sing the Refrain at the beginning and after each verse. Choir sings the verses.



- VS1 Open the gates through which the righteous may enter; We will give thanks to God, our praises we'll render. Refrain
- vs2 God in great mercy heard and answered our pleading; God is the God of all, yes, all gods exceeding. Refrain
- vs3 See the great stone, the stone the builders rejected; Now it's the cornerstone, no longer neglected. Refrain
- vs4 Vict'ry is ours, O yes, we tell forth the story; God has delivered us, we sing out God's glory. Refrain
- vs5 This is the day, the day the Lord has created; Let us be glad in it, the day long awaited. *Refrain*

(We stand)

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

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 ... Glory to you, O Lord.

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

After the reading:

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

GOSPEL PROCESSION ~ Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds we sing verse 4

~see page 5~

(We sit)

HOMILY

Pastor Lauren Eanes

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now the Green Blade Rises



The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true.

NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith:

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.

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.

PRAYERS After each petition:

... Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The lay assisting minister concludes the prayers:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Have a prayer concern to share? Forms are available in the back cover of each hymnal.

We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at their invitation

you may add others aloud or

silently in your

heart.

The use of the non-capitalized

word "catholic"

simply worldwide

here means

or universal.

Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: "Peace be with you."

(We sit)

MEAL

In the second half of our liturgy, we gather around the table, following Jesus' invitation. Here in this meal we encounter the risen Lord who gives himself for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening the Body of Christ.

OFFERING ~ Rise, Shine! (Negro Spiritual; arr. M. Garrett & T. Trenney)

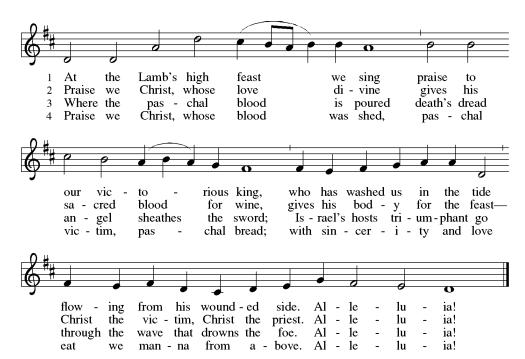
Choir

(We stand)

OFFERING SONG we sing verses 1 & 2

ELW 362

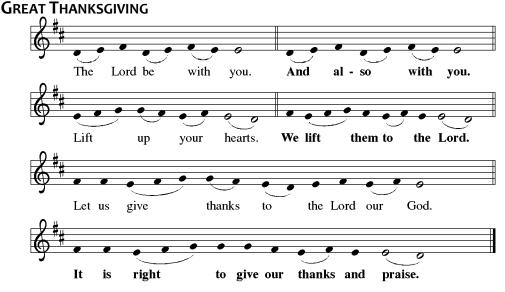
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



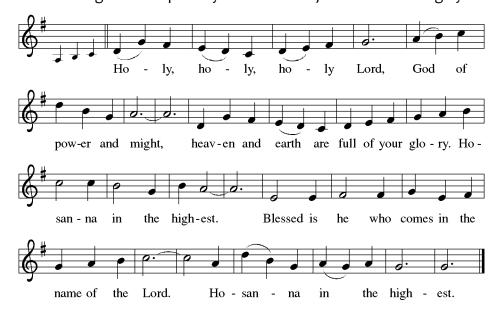
OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great
Thanksgiving is
an ancient part
of the worship
that proclaims
our thanks for the
gifts of God in
the meal.



It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The "Holy, Holy, Holy" echoes the heavenly chorus in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility. Some will make the sign of the cross at the announcement of God's presence: "Blessed is He..."

Eucharist is the Greek word for thanks.

These are the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture:

1Cor. 11:23-26
Matt. 26:26-29
Luke 22:15-20

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

The "last supper" was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He invited them to share this meal in the future to remember him and he promised to be present in a mysterious, but very real sense.

If you wish to receive communion and are unable to come forward, please let an usher know. We will be glad to serve communion to you in the pew.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence the words our Savior gave 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

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia! Come to the feast. **Alleluia!**

(We sit)

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! After the invitation to communion, the ushers will direct each row to come forward. If, for any reason, you prefer not to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, signal an usher or raise your hand, and an assisting minister will bring the elements to you.

As you come forward, pick up a small cup from the table at the front and then receive the bread (wafer) from the minister. Gluten-free wafers are located on the table. If you require gluten-free, please take one and present it to the pastor for blessing. Next, proceed to one of the two communion assistants. The first chalice has wine, and the second chalice has grape juice.

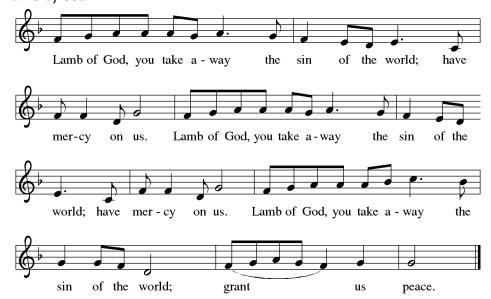
As the ministers give the bread and cup to you, they say these words: "The body of Christ, given for you... The blood of Christ, shed for you." You may say: "Amen."

After consuming the wine/juice, please put your cup on the tray along the side wall, and return to your seat via the side aisle. **If you don't wish to remove your mask up front**, you may choose to bring the elements back to your pew to eat/drink there.

All who desire to participate are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If for any reason you do not wish to receive, you may come forward for a blessing. Feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God



A Repeating Alleluia (C. Hampton,1983)
Musical Selections from the Brass Quintet

Choir

(We stand)

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Strife Is O'er



In this blessing we are reminded we bear God's name as we depart to live out our baptism, serving our neighbor and spreading the gospel.

BLESSING

The God of life, Father, \pm Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go out into the world in the joy and peace of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Feel free to stay and listen to music.

POSTLUDE

Brass Quintet

After worship, Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex invite you to greet them and each other in the Gathering Area. Please be mindful of others' wishes for physical distancing.

REMINDERS AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY

- Please leave this worship booklet in the basket at the sanctuary entrance for the next service (or recycling).
- We encourage you to take The Chimes home with you.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes **PRESIDING MINISTER ~** Pastor Alex Zuber

USHERS 8:30 ~ Karen Thomsen, Susan Gallaher, Susan Lawrence

11:00 ~ Melissa, Billy and Henry Perritt, Jeff Williams

CRUCIFERS 8:30 ~ Gus Kagey

11:00 ~ Sue Koch

COMMUNION 8:30 ~ Bill Whitmire, Gus Kagey, Philip Quoqui, Linda Morrison

ASSISTANTS 11:00 ~ Sue Koch, Judy Wilfong, Cheryl Hoak, Keira Miller

TORCH 8:30 ~ Bill Whitmire, Philip Quoqui
BEARERS 11:00 ~ Cheryl Hoak, Brandon Stees

LAY ASSISTING 8:30 ~ Kim Fawley

MINISTERS 11:00 ~ Robert Alley

LECTORS 8:30 ~ Linda Morrison

11:00 ~ Brett Tjaden

SOUND 8:30 ~ Liam Wightman
TECHS 11:00 ~ Mike Koch

MUSICIANS Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister

Linlin Uta, Music Ministry Accompanist

Brass Quintet ~ Chris Carrillo, Trumpet; Christine Carrillo, Trumpet; Andy Lankford, Trombone; Kevin Stees, Tuba; Ian Zook, French Horn

Choir ~ Members of Celebration Singers and Sanctuary Choir

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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