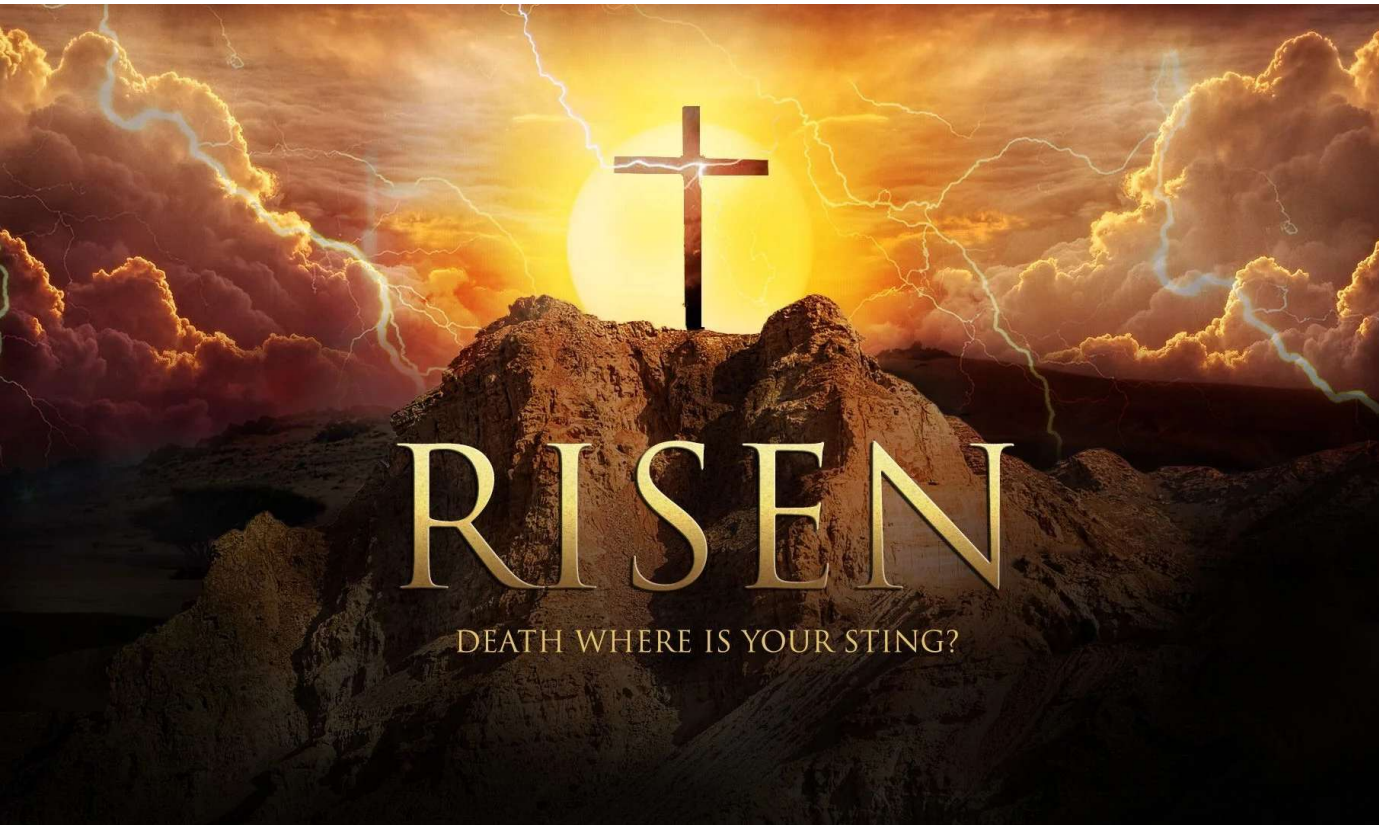


# EASTER SUNDAY

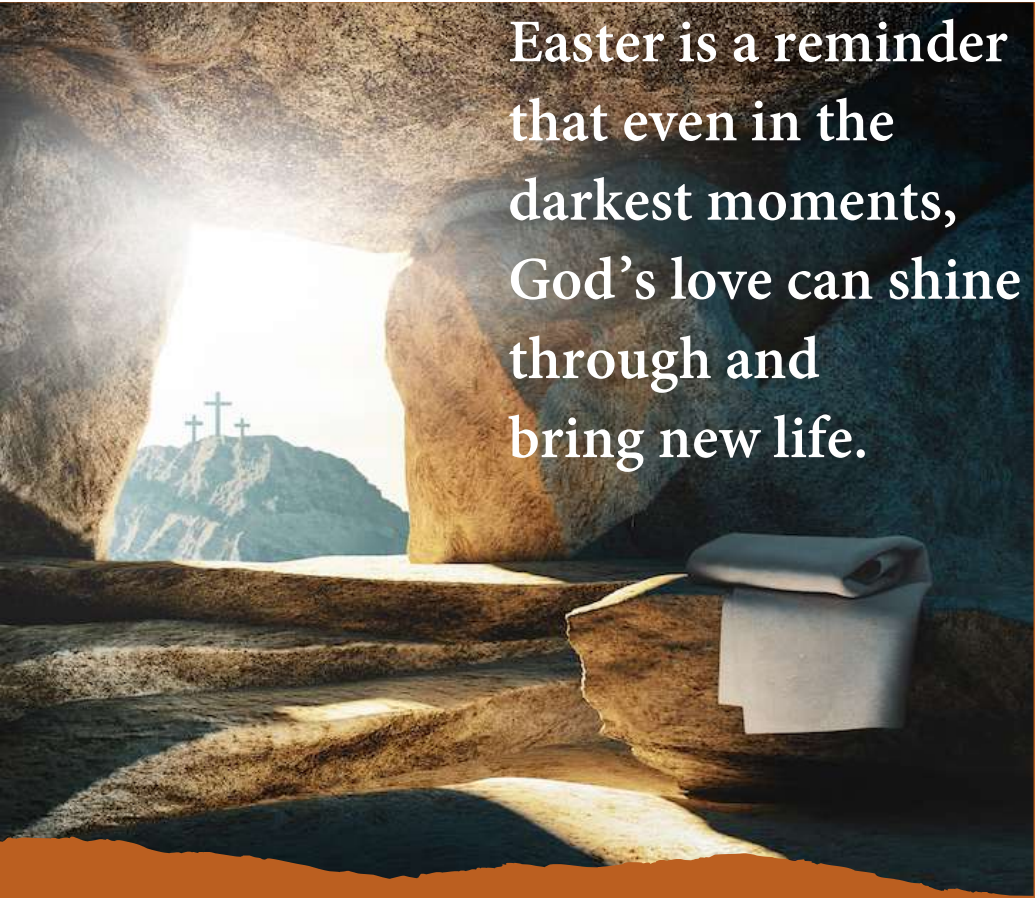


***Welcome to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School***  
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

*April 5, 2026*



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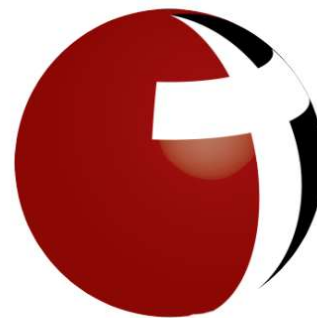
Easter is a reminder  
that even in the  
darkest moments,  
God's love can shine  
through and  
bring new life.



**lcmc**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



**lcmc**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

**Brunch will resume  
April 12th**

A close-up photograph of a woven basket filled with several colorful Easter eggs in shades of blue, pink, and white. The basket is lined with green and blue shredded paper. The text "Easter Egg Hunt" is overlaid in a white, cursive font.

# Easter Egg Hunt

Our 10:00 am service will begin with a flowering of the cross in the altar area at the front of the church. Children are welcome to participate.

Immediately following the 10:00 am service there will be an Easter egg hunt for the children.

## **INTRODUCTION**

*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.*

# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to  
come. You lead us beside still waters.  
We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.  
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.  
Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of  
life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and  
resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of  
life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of  
baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor  
and praise,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**PROCESSIONAL SONG**

**“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**

**Hymn # 365**

**<sup>1</sup> Jesus Christ is ris'n today,  
Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day,  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**who did once upon the cross,  
Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss.  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**<sup>2</sup> Hymns of praise then let us  
sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heav'nly  
king, Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**who endured the cross and  
grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save.  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**<sup>3</sup> But the pains which he  
endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured;  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**now above the sky he's king,  
Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing.  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**Final Sing we to our God  
above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as his love;  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

**praise him, all you heav'nly  
host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 365

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.**

## **Kyrie**

*In peace, let us pray to the Lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being  
of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us  
pray to the lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their  
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy***

*Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord*  
***A-men.***

**THIS IS THE FEAST**

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.***

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***<sup>1</sup> Worthy is Christ,  
the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free  
to be people of God.***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***<sup>2</sup> Power, riches, wisdom, and  
strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory  
are his.***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***<sup>3</sup> Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all  
creation:***

***Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever.  
Amen.***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***Final For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia.***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# **WORD**

## **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."*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:

<sup>38</sup>how 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. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;

<sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not 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.

<sup>42</sup>He 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.

<sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: 118:1-2, 14-24

*This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)*

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel now declare,  
"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation  
echo in the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the LORD acts  
valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open for me the gates of  
righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to  
the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup> "This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup> **I give thanks to you, for you have  
answered me and you have  
become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> **By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4**

*Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.*

<sup>1</sup> If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal Life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.***

# GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to  
Matthew 28:1-10

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **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!*

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.

<sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> 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.”

<sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> 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.**



*Children's Sermon*

# **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

A photograph of an open tomb entrance. The scene is illuminated by a bright sunrise or sunset, casting a warm, golden glow. In the background, three crosses are visible on a hill. The text "Easter Sunday" is written in a white, cursive font on the left side of the image.

*Easter Sunday*

**Christ  
is Risen**

## **Hymn of the Day**

**“I Know That My Redeemer Lives!”**

**Hymn # 619**

**1 I know that my Redeemer  
lives!**

**What comfort this sweet  
sentence gives!**

Hymn # 619

**He lives, he lives, who once was  
dead;  
he lives, my ever-living head!**

Hymn # 619

**2 He lives triumphant from the  
grave;  
he lives eternally to save;**

Hymn # 619

**he lives exalted, throned above;  
he lives to rule his church in  
love.**

Hymn # 619

**3 He lives to grant me rich  
supply;  
he lives to guide me with his  
eye;**

Hymn # 619

**he lives to comfort me when  
faint;  
he lives to hear my soul's  
complaint.**

Hymn # 619

**4 He lives to silence all my  
fears;**

**he lives to wipe away my tears;**

Hymn # 619

**he lives to calm my troubled  
heart;  
he lives all blessing to impart.**

Hymn # 619

**Final He lives, all glory to his  
name!**

**He lives, my Savior, still the  
same;**

Hymn # 619

**what joy this blest assurance  
gives:**

**I know that my Redeemer lives!**

Hymn # 619

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

## **CREED**

*The 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 OF INTERCESSION**

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.

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 and we remember our friends and family members before you. 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.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionary; for Neeraj in South Asia serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in San Jose, California. Today we also give you thanks for Redeemer United Church in Marion, Texas and their pastor Jennifer Gold. Bless their work for your sake. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. 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.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you  
**And also 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***

It is indeed right, our duty and our  
joy.....

we praise your name and join their  
unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
Heaven and earth are  
full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna  
in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

# **THE 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.**

## **COMMUNION**

*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.*

## ***Lamb of God***

***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.***



*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.*

# **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## **SENDING**

## **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 Song**

**“Thine Is the Glory”**

**Hymn # 376**

**1 Thine is the glory, risen,  
conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!**

Hymn # 376

**Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.**

Hymn # 376

**[Refrain]**

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!**

Hymn # 376

**2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,  
risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom;**

Hymn # 376

**let his church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting!  
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 376

**[Refrain]**

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!**

Hymn # 376

**Final** No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee;  
aid us in our strife;

Hymn # 376

**make us more than conqu'rors  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above.**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 376

**[Refrain]**

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!**

Hymn # 376

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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EASTER  
**SUNDAY**

