

EASTER SUNDAY

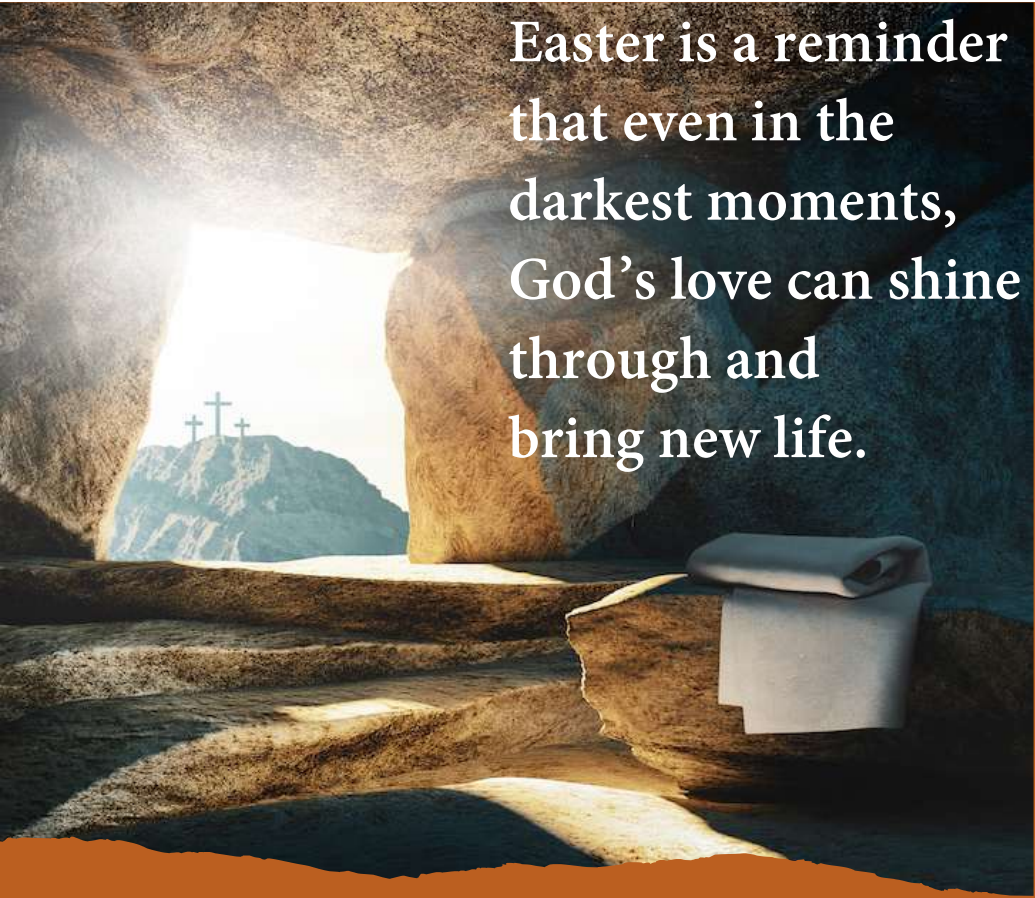


***Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School***
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

April 20, 2025



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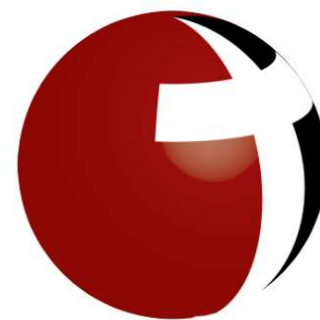
Easter is a reminder
that even in the
darkest moments,
God's love can shine
through and
bring new life.



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Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



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**Brunch will resume
April 27th**

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 white shredded paper. The text "Easter Egg Hunt" is written in a large, white, cursive font across the center of the image.

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

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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 gifts 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.

PROCESSIONAL SONG

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Hymn # 365

**¹ 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

**² 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

**³ 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.

***¹ 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.

***² Power, riches, wisdom, and
strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory
are his.***

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***³ 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."

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "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 word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 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)

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

² **Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

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

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

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

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

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

²⁰ "This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

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

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

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

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits,
then at his coming those who belong to Christ.
²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the
kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed
every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he
must reign until he has put all his enemies under
his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

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
Mark 16:1-8

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them.

⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Children's Sermon

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

Jesus Has Risen
Mark 16:1-8



Hymn of the Day

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

Hymn # 369

**¹ Christ the Lord is ris'n today;
Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your
way; Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**offer praise with love replete,
Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet.
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**2 For the sheep the Lamb has
bled, Alleluia!
sinless in the sinner's stead.
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**Christ the Lord is ris'n on
high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die.
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**³ Christ, the victim undefiled,
Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled,
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**when contending death and
life, Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome
strife. Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**Final Christians, on this holy
day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay;
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

**Christ the Lord is ris'n on
high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die.
Alleluia!**

Hymn # 369

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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Bring new hope among all who are in need,
especially neighbors without homes or food, and
those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring
healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving, and we
remember our friends and family members before
you. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace, **hear 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 missionaries; for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Kathi in the Home Office serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Faith Lutheran Church in Harvey, North Dakota. God of peace, you call your church to work together in unity. Help us to work in peace and harmony with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We thank you for the leadership and ministry of the Board of Trustees, Ministry Board and support staff of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ as they serve our association. Especially today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings, Texas and their pastor, Blake Anderson. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of 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.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
+ bless you now and always.

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!
Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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