Easter Sunday



Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all



Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.



PRELUDE Martha Freitag, organist

Welcome, Happy Morning – Robert Below

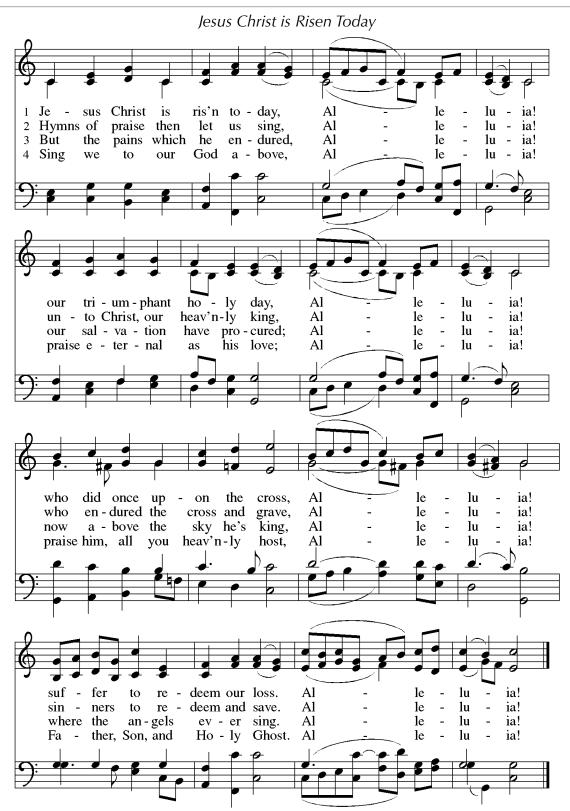
WELCOME Pastor Dave Thomas

EASTER ANNOUNCEMENT

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN ELW #365



Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708

GATHER

PRAYER

- P Let us pray: Appear again to us, Risen Lord, and break the darkness with the glorious light of your resurrection. Bring us a new dawn of faith and hope, and fill our hearts with your peace that passes our understanding. Inspire us to be witnesses to your glory and grace by our faithful words and generous actions. This we pray through you, O Lord,
- C for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Sammie Gorham, soprano

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth – G. F. Handel



EASTER GOSPEL

Luke 24:1-12 (NRSV)

- P The Holy Gospel as recorded in St. Luke the 24th chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The 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. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But 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.

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

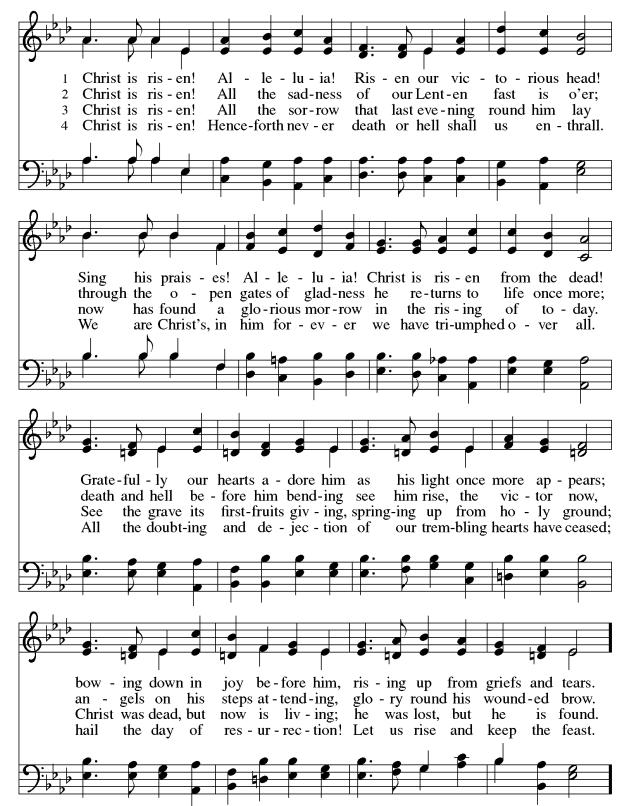
SERMON Pastor Dave Thomas

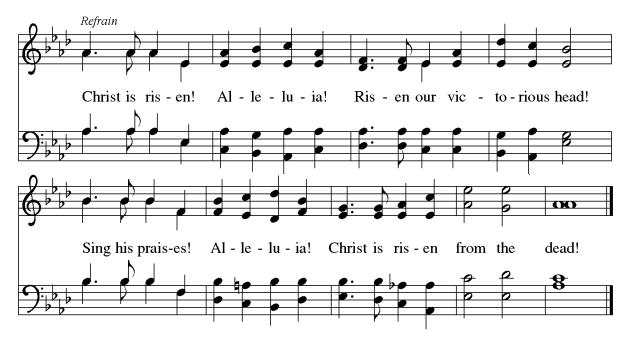
A Perplexing Easter

continued...

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #382







Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Lord, in your mercy."
To which the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Let us pray, as our Lord taught:
- C 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



BENEDICTION

- P May the God of peace, who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus, still our fears, stir our faith, be salve for our wounds and the source of our joy; and may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son † and Holy Spirit, be with you this Holy Easter and forever.
- C Amen.

POSTLUDE

Martha Freitag, organist

Jesus Christ, Our Great Redeemer – J. S. Bach



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