

# All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA Sunday, March 31, 2024 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day, Year B

"Meeting people where they're at and connecting them to the full life of Christ."

Show Up | Do Good | Be Kind

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

# **Land Acknowledgement**

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. At All Saints we give thanks to the Wahpekute (Wah-peh-kue-teh) Dakota, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land, and are thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. For all these things we give thanks. **Amen.** 

Opening Anthem: Jesus Christ is risen today

**ELW 365** 

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured; Alleluia! now above the sky he's king, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love; Alleluia! praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

#### **Confession and Absolution**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. Amen.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the Jordan your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Canticle of Praise, Setting 3 page 140-141 This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

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

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

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.

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**

The Risen Lord be with you! And also with you!

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

**Children's Message Traveling Song** 

O, God We Call ACS 1075

#### First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

Peter fairly exploded with his good news: "It's God's own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ everything is being put together again—well, he's doing it everywhere, among everyone.

"You know the story of what happened in Judea. It began in Galilee after John preached a total life-change. Then Jesus arrived from Nazareth, anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, ready for action. He went through the country helping people and healing everyone who was beaten down by the Adversary. He was able to do all this because God was with him.

"And we saw it, saw it all, everything he did in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem where they killed him, hung him from a cross. But in three days God had him up, alive, and out where he could be seen. Not everyone saw him—he wasn't put on public display. Witnesses had been carefully handpicked by God beforehand—us! We were the ones, there to eat and drink with him after he came back from the dead. He commissioned us to announce this in public, to bear solemn witness that he is in fact the One whom God destined as Judge of the living and dead. But we're not alone in this. Our witness that he is the means to forgiveness of sins is backed up by the witness of all the prophets."

Word of God Word of Life: Thanks be to God!

#### Psalm: Psalm 118: selected verses from The Message

Thank God because he's good,
because his love never quits.

Tell the world, Israel,
"His love never quits."

And you, clan of Aaron, tell the world,
"His love never quits."

And you who fear God, join in,
"His love never quits."

I was right on the cliff-edge, ready to fall,
when God grabbed and held me.

# God's my strength, he's also my song, and now he's my salvation.

Hear the shouts, hear the triumph songs in the camp of the saved?

"The hand of God has turned the tide! The hand of God is raised in victory! The hand of God has turned the tide!"

I didn't die. I *lived*!

Thank you for responding to me; you've truly become my salvation!

# The stone the masons discarded as flawed is now the capstone!

This is God's work.

We rub our eyes—we can hardly believe it!

This is the very day God acted—let's celebrate and be festive!

Salvation now, God. Salvation now! Oh yes, God—a free and full life!

Word of God Word of Life: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation, Setting 3 ELW page 142

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

Alleluia. Alleluia..

#### Gospel: John 20:1-18

This morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

5He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

16Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thanks be to God.

Sermon ῥαββουνί *RABBONI* 

#### Sermon Anthem Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds ELW 367

- Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:
   "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
   Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife.
   "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
   Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above that we conquer through your triumph; grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say:

  "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## **Sharing of the Peace of Christ**

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

**Holy God,** we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

**Life-giving God**, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

**Merciful God**, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

**Liberating God,** we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

**Loving God,** we pray for this community of faith All Saints Lutheran Church and for your Spirit in our midst. We pray for those struggling with illness, for your health and hope, and theirs and their family's lives. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

**Eternal God,** we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.** 

## **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 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,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus is Sung! Setting 3 page 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit, our Advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.** 

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.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Communion Songs: Setting 3, page 146 ELW 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.

#### I Know That My Redeemer Lives! ELW 619

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my ever-living head!
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save; he lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.
- 3 He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye; he lives to comfort me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 4 He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears; he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.

- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 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 Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

## **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.

#### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. Amen.

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.

## Inspirited Anthem to send you on your way:

## Christ, Be Our Light ELW 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
 Longing for truth, we turn to you.
 Make us your own, your holy people,
 light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

- Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
   Longing for hope, many despair.
   Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
   Make us your living voice. *Refrain*
- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Refrain*
- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. *Refrain*
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

#### **Invitation to God's service:**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

