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Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Resurrection Lutheran Church

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Resurrection Lutheran Church is called by God, to reach beyond our walls and share the Good News, bringing Christ to the world through Prayer, Love, and Action.

Serving Our Neighbors by Sharing Our Blessings

Sunday, April 20, 2025—9:30 AM

Easter Sunday

Everything [in] Between: “grief & hope”

Holy Communion

All are welcome to commune and receive Christ in bread and wine. Please fill out a communion card and give it to the usher when coming forward for Communion.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

“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!

PRELUDE

Easter Hymn, Robert Farrell

CENTERING TIME

*2 minutes of silence to center our hearts for worship.
Our time will conclude after the centering music.*

CENTERING MUSIC

Risen Indeed!, Larry Shackley

EASTER WELCOME

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

P My dear friends,

we have known grief. We have known loss.

We have known the long road, tired and winding. We have whispered prayers on bended knees.

We have stared at the sky, empty of stars.

But today—

C **today we know hope.**

P Today we know life.

C **Today we know the sound of Alleluias.**

P Today we know that death does not have the last word.

C **Today we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God**

P It is Easter.

May hope find you.

And may you know, deep in your bones, that today is a new day.

C **Alleluia! Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

P Faithful friends, today is a joyful day!

If I were to ask you what parts of today's service feel joyful, you'd probably say the music, the passing of the peace, the flowers in the sanctuary. You might say the children's sermon, or the crowded room. But it's unlikely that any of you would name the prayer of confession, because the prayer of confession has a reputation for being somber and serious.

But perhaps the prayer of confession can feel like a fresh page. Maybe the prayer of confession can allow us to start again.

When we move closer to God, we are always met with grace, mercy, and abundant love. And my friends, that is joyful. That feels like Easter, doesn't it?

So join me in the prayer of confession.

It's a joyful day. That joy doesn't stop here.

Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P The Gospel of Luke says: "It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told the apostles [of the resurrection]. But these words seemed to the disciples an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb."

**C Forgive us, God,
when good news lands in our lap and we refuse to believe it. Forgive us, God,
when grief and fear crowd out any room in our hearts for hope. Forgive us,
God, when we dismiss the stories of others and minimize the voices of our
neighbors.**

P In a world that teeters between grief and hope, show us how to be like Peter.

**C Show us how to hold onto hope.
Show us how to run toward you. Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P Family of Faith,

At first, the disciples didn't believe that Jesus had risen. They stayed locked in an upper room, shaking and afraid. Peter was the only exception. Fortunately, Jesus loves us on our best days and our worst days.

**C God's grace exists for us when we are hopeful and when we're grieving, when
we're shouting and when we're silent,
when we're full of faith and when we're full of fear.**

**God's grace exists for us on the best days, the worst days, and every day in
between.**

Thanks be to God for this good news! Alleluia! Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OF PEACE

SONG

The Lord's My Shepherd, Henrietta Atkin

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



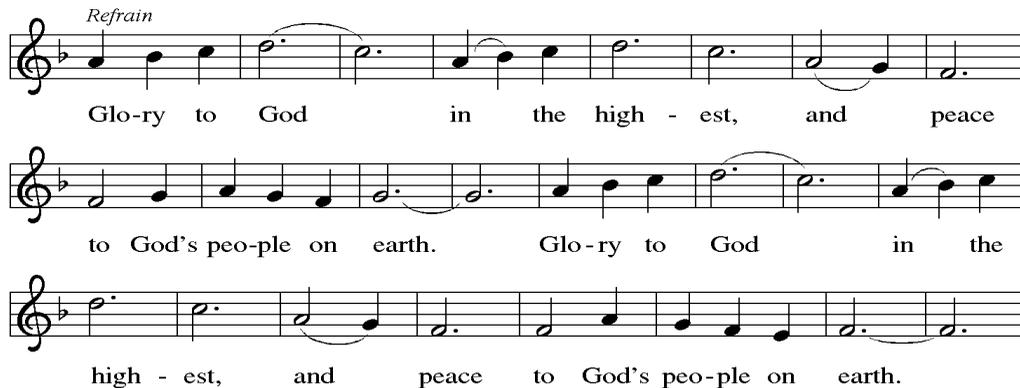
suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

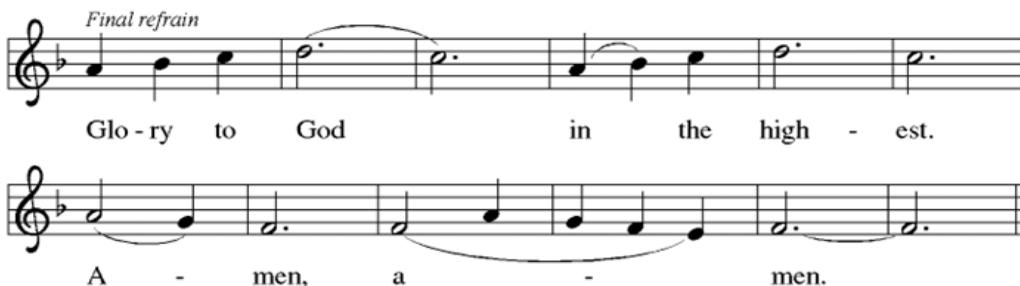
Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Final refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

P God of Alleluias and empty tombs, God of garden plots and good news, it is Easter.

It is finally Easter.

In a world full of grief and heartache,

in a world full of violence and oppression, in a world full of loss and separation,

we long for this day

because Easter sings a different song.

Easter sings a song of hope. Easter sings a song of new life.

Easter sings a song of love that makes you want to jump out of your chair and run barefoot to the tomb.

Easter smells of fresh flowers and baked bread. It sounds like trumpets and laughter.

It feels like a crowded table and a warm hug. Yes, Easter sings a different song.

So in a world full of grief,

help us to cling to Easter's hope. In a world full of grief,

help us hear this story of good news. In a world full of grief,

we're ready to jump out of our chairs and run barefoot to the tomb.

With hope we pray, with hope we listen.

C Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.

²⁰No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²They shall not build and another inhabit;

they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD —
and their descendants as well.

²⁴Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent — its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the LORD.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (read responsively)

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

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

¹⁴The 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!"**

¹⁶The 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.**

¹⁸The 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.**

²²The 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

P The holy gospel according to Luke

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they 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.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #384

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P In the dark before dawn,
 C **we believe that God is alive.**
 P In the midst of our grief,
 C **we believe the Spirit is at work.**

P In the chaos of our broken world,
C **we believe that love is on the loose.**
P For no stone could keep God at bay,
C **and no violence could keep God's love from us.**
P So today we sing,
C *Alleluia!*
P For somewhere in between our belief and doubt,
C **hope lives. Christ has died, and Christ has also risen.**
Thanks be to God! 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. Each petition ends:

P God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

P 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.
C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC **Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Henrietta Atkin**

OFFERTORY SONG

“We Are an Offering”

ELW #692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives, they are yours:
we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be,
we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering,
we are an offering.



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OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

P When the women got to the tomb on that Easter morning they were met by angels, who told them, "He is not here! But remember what he told you."
Come and remember. There is room for you here.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P God of today and tomorrow,
God of the garden and the tomb,
God of our faith and our doubt,
we are running toward you.
So with awe-struck, wildly-beating, grateful hearts, we run toward you.
With feet in the garden and eyes on the cross, we pray to you, saying the words
your son taught us to pray:

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION - *all are invited. The bread is gluten free.*

LAMB OF GOD

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The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef. The first staff contains the lyrics: 'Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have'. The second staff contains the lyrics: 'mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the'. There are triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of three notes in both staves.

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Gelobt Sei Gott, Robert Farrell

Air (Five Liturgical Meditations), Bob Moore

TABLE BLESSING

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C **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

P 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.

C Amen.

SENDING MUSIC

Sunrise Resurrection, Joseph M. Martin

STATING OUR MISSION

P Resurrection, what is our mission?

C **Serving Our Neighbors by Sharing Our Blessings!**

BENEDICTION

P As you leave this place,
May you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain
multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.
God is with you in the mountains,
in the valleys,
and everywhere in between.
Believe that good news, and go in peace.

C Amen.

Pastor: Darryl Thompson Powell
Director of Music: Henrietta Atkin
Oboist: Wayne Ryerson
Resurrection Lutheran Choir
Cover Art created by Joyce DeWinter

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TO CELEBRATE THE RISEN CHRIST

The Easter and spring plants decorating our church this morning are dedicated to the glory of God by the following people and in honor or in memory of the loved ones listed:

Linda Andrade, in memory of her sister Natalie, brother Jeff, and nephew AJ.

Sue & Pat Flanagan, in memory of their son Dean Carter, and their parents.

Sue Koevenig, to the glory of God.

Alan & Barb Miralgio, in memory of their parents: Frank, Agnes, Dorothea, Herbert, Anne and Jim.

Pastors Darryl & Carla Thompson Powell, in honor of Cameron Amari Powell.