

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

For Easter Sunday -- April 12, 2020

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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MUSICIAN – *Ms. Heather Lewis*

OPENING HYMN “*Jesus Christ Is Risen*”

**Jesus Christ is ris’n to-day, A—le-lu-ia!
Our tri-um-phant holy day! A—le-lu-ia!
Who did once up-on the cross, A—le-lu-ia!
Suf-fer to re-deem our loss! A—le-lu-ia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, A—le-lu-ia!
Unto Christ our Heav’nly King. A—le-lu-ia!
Who endured the cross and grave, A—le-lu-ia!
Sinners to redeem and save! A—le-lu-ia!**

Latin hymn, 14th cent.

INVOCATION & EASTER SCRIPTURE RESPONSES

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Let us now humbly approach the throne of God,

Who is our joy and delight.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

[Based on Jonah’s confession from the belly of the whale]

Let us make true confession of sins to God: *(Silence for prayerful reflection)*

Merciful Father,

Forgive my sins. Help me in my distress. I am thrown into the deep, into the heart of the sea, with all my wrongs flooding around me. My sins like weeds have encircled my head. The deepness of my distress closes in to take my life. My rebellious thoughts have driven me down into the pit of hell. The guilt, like a prison, has kept me locked up with the consequences of my actions and in-actions. Forgive me for forgetting You, O Lord, when my life was fainting away. I confess to holding onto fake gods when I should have remembered Your help and grace. Have mercy on me, and may my heartfelt prayer rise before You. I call out to You, O Lord, for You hear and answer me. Amen.

Salvation belongs to the Lord, for He remembers you with His never-failing mercy. So upon this Your confession, as a called and ordained Servant of Jesus Christ, in His place and by His Holy Command, I forgive you all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SPOKEN KYRIE

Alleluia! Living Lord, have mercy on us! Risen Christ, have mercy on us!

Victorious Lord, have mercy on us and give us your Easter peace. Alleluia!

EASTER HYMN OF PRAISE

**Heav'nly hosts in worship sing, Holy, Holy, cry;
He the First and He the Last, God the Lord Most High.
Glo-ry, hon-our, pow'r and praise
Be to Him al-one! We, with all cre-ation fall, be-fore His throne.
Praise to the Lamb, praise to the Lamb;
By His great off-er-ing, we are set free!
Praise to the Lamb, praise to the Lamb;
Now and for-ev-er-more! Praise to the Lamb!**

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GREETING & PRAYER

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

Let us pray: Almighty and Merciful Father, You give us the joy of celebrating the resurrection of our Lord. Graciously help us by Your Spirit to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, and as we are kindled with Heavenly desires, may we ever thirst for the Fountain of Life, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament: *Isaiah 25:6-9*

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *Colossians 3:1-4*

[St. Paul writes:] If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EASTER GOSPEL VERSE *"Now All The Vault Of Heav'n!"*

**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! Christ has triumphed! – Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia!**

Paul Zeller Strodach, 1623

Holy Gospel: *St. Matthew 28: 1-10*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, 28th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 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.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.' This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

EASTER GOSPEL RESPONSE *"Now All The Vault Of Heav'n!"*

**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 life we ever say,
'Christ has triumphed, He is living!'
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia!**

Paul Zeller Strodach, 1623

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the + life everlasting. Amen.

EASTER MESSAGE *St. Matt. 28 + "Making Easter An 'Essential Service'"*

HYMN *"In Christ Alone"*

**1. In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**3. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine - bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

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CCLI # 3350395

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

On this day of resurrection, let us pray that the light of Christ may rise over the whole world.

Creator God, we ask that the light of Christ would shine in the church, as she now is scattered in homes far and wide, so that all may see her people and be drawn to faith in God. Lord, in Your Easter mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Redeeming God, we pray that the light of Christ would shine in our community through our people, so that our friends and neighbours may know with us the joy of new life. Lord, in Your Easter mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Loving God, we ask that the light of Christ would shine into the darkness of despair, to lift up all who are grieving, lonely, suffering, or without hope. Lord, in Your Easter mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Saviour God, we pray that the light of Christ would shine into the darkness of human hearts, wherever deeds of greed, oppression and injustice are being planned. Lord, in Your Easter mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, we ask that the light of Christ would shine in the darkness of the grave and tomb, and that all who have died in Christ may rise to life again. Lord, in Your Easter mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God over all creation, we thank you for the gift of light, which you created in the beginning by the power of your word. Shine the light of Christ upon us and all the world, so that we may come to feast with you in eternal light; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our light and our life, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

COVID 19 PRAYER

Healing God, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. Come to our aid as the coronavirus continually spreads globally, heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends from being infected. Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline so that we may come together, working to control and eliminate the coronavirus. Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession: care-givers, nurses, attendants, doctors, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families. Inspire, give insight and hope to all researchers focused on developing a vaccine. Sustain all workers and business owners who suffer loss of livelihood due to shut-downs, quarantines, closed borders, and other restrictions... protect and guard all those who must travel. Guide the leaders of the nations that they speak the truth, halt the spread of misinformation and act with justice so that all your family may know healing. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

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

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour + and give you peace.

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN *"Thine Is The Glory"*

**Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes, where Thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.**

**Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, Hymns of triumph sing;
For the Lord now liveth, Death hath lost its sting.**

**Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.**

**No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee; Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, Through Thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy home above.**

**Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.**

Edmond Budry (1904)

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