

Worship
Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024
8:30 & 9:45am



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH
651-451-6225
www.goodshepherdigh.com

Welcome to Worship

Whether one's feet are big or small, fresh or worn, running or crawling
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is:
Together on the Journey, Sharing God's Love

PRELUDE

WELCOME

- L. Early on the first day of the week, the disciples of Jesus went to the tomb where he had been buried only to find that the stone had been rolled away and the tomb empty. Friends, we gather here as Christ's disciples, on the first day of the week, to celebrate the Good News of the Gospel: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

PROCESSIONAL SONG *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"*

**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!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavn'ly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C. Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!
L. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C. Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

GREETING

- L. The grace of Jesus, our risen Lord and Savior, be with you all.
C. And also with you.
L. Let us pray together,
**C. God of mystery, your wondrous love always seems to catch us off guard.
We come to the tomb looking for death, but find life instead. In holy awe of Easter morning, remind us of the moment when despair was transported into new possibilities, moving us to proclaim with gratitude Christ is risen! Alleluia! Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Leesa Soderlind

(All who are able, please stand)

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE EASTER GOSPEL READING *John 20:1-18*

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him." Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb.

They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. The angels asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

She replied, "They have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they've put him." As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabbouni" (which means *Teacher*).

Jesus said to her, "Don't hold on to me, for I haven't yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, 'I'm going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, "I've seen the Lord." Then she told them what he said to her.

The Word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL RECEPTIONAL

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

MESSAGE

Pastor Courtney Steitz

SONG 367 *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*

**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!**

**Adoring praises now we bring and with the heavn'ly 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!**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

C. I believe in the resurrection.

- L. I believe that Jesus died on the cross,
his hands and feet held to the wood by metal spikes.

I believe that his body was pierced by the soldier's spear,
and even the sun was darkened
as all creation grieved Christ's death.

C. I believe in the resurrection.

- L. I believe that Jesus' body was placed in a borrowed tomb,
where it lay for three days.

I believe that the power of God brought life to his dead body
and rolled the stone away from the entrance
so all might see that Jesus was no longer there.

C. I believe in the resurrection.

- L. I believe that the unbelievable story of the women was true,
just as the angel had announced:
"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."

C. I believe in the resurrection.

- L. I believe that Jesus lives today – as powerfully and perfectly alive as he was two thousand
years ago, and for all time past and yet to come. I believe he empowers me to follow in
his footsteps, in order to bring Good News to all people. I believe all this because

C. I believe in the resurrection.

OFFERING RECEIVED

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- C. We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such
grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives
and these offerings be witness to that good news. Let all our words and actions,
our love and service, bear witness to your resurrection power, for the sake of our
living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(Those who are able, please stand)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- L. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

- L. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

- L. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

- L. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all
places give thanks and praise... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

SONG *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"*

**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!**

**He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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!**

**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.**

**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!**

SONG *"Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!"*

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**

**For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia! When
contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

**Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia! Christ
the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

SONG *"Christ is Risen! Alleluia!"*

**Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him as his light once more appears;
Bowing down in joy before him, rising up from griefs and tears.**

Refrain: **Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!**

**Christ is risen! All the sadness of our Lenten fast is o'er;
Through the open gates of gladness he returns to life once more;
Death and hell before him bending see him rise, the victor now,
Angels on his steps attending, glory round his wounded brow. *Refrain***

**Christ is risen! All the sorrow that last evening round him lay
Now has found a glorious morrow in the rising of today.
See the grave its first-fruits giving, springing up from holy ground;
Christ was dead, but now is living, he was lost but he is found. *Refrain***

**Christ is risen! Henceforth never death or hell shall us enthrall.
We are Christ's, in him forever we have triumphed over all.
All the doubting and dejection of our trembling hearts have ceased;
Hail the day of resurrection! Let us rise and keep the feast. *Refrain***

COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

We have shared the bread and wine as Jesus taught. We know that with each time we share it and with each time we celebrate the resurrection, our lives are forever changed. Let us go forth and celebrate the Good News! Amen.

BENEDICTION

- L. Now may the truth of the empty tomb –
the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection –
keep you fearless and sure
that you will see the Resurrected One
again and again in this life and throughout eternity.
- C. The power of God's endless love surrounds us and guides us,
this day and always. Amen.**

SONG *"Thine is the Glory"*

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain: **Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son:
 Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

**Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting! *Refrain***

DISMISSAL

P. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P. You're the Body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the Good News.

C. We will. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE