

# First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Resurrection of Our Lord**

**Easter Sunday**

**March 31, 2024 ~ 9:30 am**

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

## MARCH 31, 2024

*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!*

### **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.

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

### **Gospel: Mark 16:1-8**

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

# He is risen! Alleluia!

**Prelude**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

*FELC Bell Choir*

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

### **\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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 river 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!**  
We ask this through Christ,  
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.  
**Amen.**

**\*The Gathering Song**

ELW 365

**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!

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

## \*The Pastoral Greeting

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

A: **And also with you**

## The Song of Praise *This is the Feast of Victory* *WOV Setting 4*



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. ☐ Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: ☐ Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and



might to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



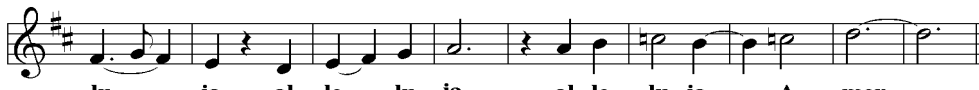
☐ For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A - men

## **\*The Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

P: 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.

**A: Amen.**

## **The First Reading**

**Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

<sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

R: Word of God; Word of Life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

*(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,**

**"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,

and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**

**"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,**

**and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,

but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;**

**I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate of the LORD;

here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me**

**and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;**

**it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.



## The Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

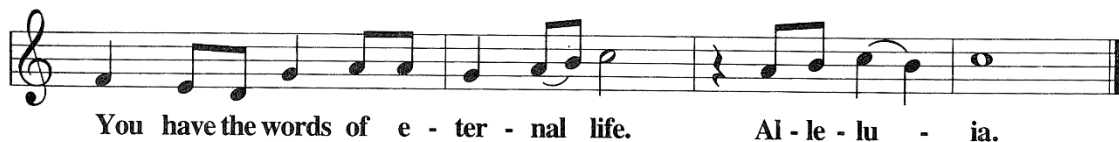
<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

R: Word of God; Word of Life.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

### \*The Announcement of the Gospel Reading

*WOV Setting 4*



P: The Holy Gospel according to St Mark

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **The Reading of the Gospel**

## **Mark 16:1-18**

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

<sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

*We observe a brief silence for reflection*

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.  
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623  
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **\*The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

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.

*A brief silence.*

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, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, and for your Spirit in our midst. 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.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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.**

## **\*The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Let us offer one another the sign of the Risen Christ's peace.

*As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome all because God welcomes all, and we recognize that our differences are gifts to our communal life.*

AR-OK Synod RIC Statement

## **Anthem**

*That Brightest Dawn*

*Dan Carter*

## **\*The Offering Prayer**

P. Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**A: Amen.**

*The offering plates will be available on the table in the Narthex.  
Please place your donations there, as you leave.*

## **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*Holy, Holy, Holy

WOV Setting 4



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

## \*Words of Institution

P: 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 for 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.

**A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## \*Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us to pray as Jesus taught us.

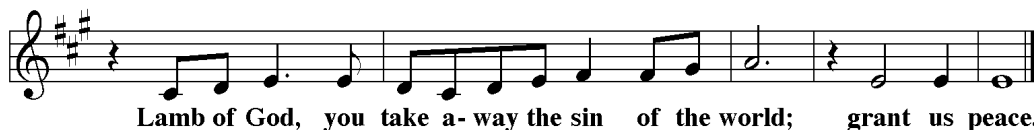
A: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

*Please remain standing during the singing of the Lamb of God.*

### \*Lamb of God

*WOV Setting 4*





# The Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

*Please come to the communion rail and kneel (or stand). We will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread and dip into the wine or white grape juice then take and eat the elements.*

## The Communion Music

Alleluia, Alleluia...

WOV 671

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music. The first system is the 'Refrain' and includes the lyrics: 'Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;'. The second system continues the refrain with: 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.'. The third system contains five numbered verses: '1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth;', '2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:', '3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ;', '4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward:', and '5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,'. The fourth system concludes with the lyrics: 'he is the king of cre - a - tion.', 'Je - sus has died and has ris - en.', 'now we shall live . . . for - ev - er.', 'life for all peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.', and 'joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.'. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, Dm, Gm, C, Bb, and C.

Text: Donald Fishel, b. 1950  
 Music: Donald Fishel, b. 1950; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928  
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ALLELUIA NO. 1  
 8 8 and refrain

### **\*The Communion Blessing**

P: May the nourishment of the body and blood of our Savior  
Jesus Christ give you renewed strength and life.

A: **Amen.**

### **\*The Prayer After Communion**

P: Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

A: **Amen.**

## **Announcements & Community Updates**

### **\*The Blessing**

P: 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.

A: **Amen.**

## \*The Sending Song

ELW 385

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:  
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpus, 1570–1615

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## \*Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

# Postlude

## Worship Assistants

Reader & Communion Assistant: *Sandra Alexander*

Crucifer: *Bruce Torkelson* Usher(s): *Nat & Bruce Torkelson*

Presiding Minister: *Pastor Norm Dake*

*Music: Kathie Schiermeister*

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