

Messiah Lutheran Church - "Growing God's Family"



Resurrection of Our Lord – April 12, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.

Serving God and Us Today...

Donna Fesmire, organist

Cheri Morris, song leader

Our Choir, the Anthem

Reid Simmons, prelude and postlude

Gretchen Grant, Ed Winner, Readers

****Congregational responses are in *bold italics*****

Welcome and Announcements

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we hear the prelude.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today! Reid Simmons

The chimes welcome us to worship.

The Easter Acclamation and Paschal Candle Lighting

P - Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The prayer is said as the Paschal candle is inscribed with a cross, the alpha and omega, and the year.

Christ, yesterday and today, ✝ the beginning **A** and the ending **Ω**. To Christ belongs all time **2** and all the ages; **0** to Christ belongs glory and dominion **2** now and forever. **0**

Amen.

The paschal candle is lighted

A -The light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

“On the first day of the week at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The 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?"

P - Alleluia! Christ is Risen! ***Christ is Risen Indeed!***

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P - Almighty God has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and has forgiven us all our sins. May He continue to strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
Alleluia!

And because Christ is risen, we gather to worship in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

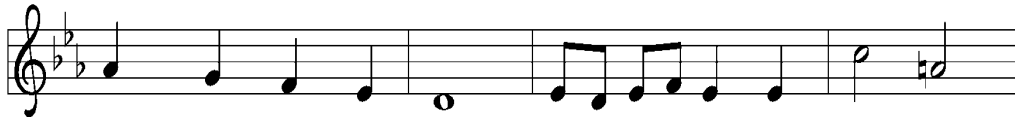
Thine is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Prayer of the Day

A - Let us pray (silence). Alleluia! Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! O God, You gave Your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by His glorious resurrection You delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with Him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

First Reading – Acts 10:34-43

Gretchen Grant

A reading from the tenth chapter Acts “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 Devil. 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 hand-picked 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.”” (Acts 10:34–43, The Message)

Word of God, word of life. ***Thanks be to God!***

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4 Ed Winner

A reading from the third chapter of Colossians. Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.” (Colossians 3:1–4, NLT)

Word of God, word of life. ***Thanks be to God!***

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-eighth 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 worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." (Matthew 28:1–10, NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord: ***Praise be to You, O Christ.***

Children's Message

Hymn

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!

Sermon

Pastor Timothy Knauss

Prayers of the People - Lord as we pray, we kneel alongside Messiah Jesus, in Your presence, with the help of the Spirit.

#1 Gracious God, it is good for us to gather as Your beloved in community. We treasure Your Presence in the Word and the meal, in song and prayer. Remind us You are still with us in these days when gathering together is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of

safety, encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. God of Easter joy surprise, amaze, and heal all who suffer. God of Easter rebirth renew the earth with rain, warmth, and with a creator's love. Christ once dead is living, **welcome happy Morning!**

#2 Risen Lord Christ, You came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that You are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from You; and that Your compassionate grace enfolds us for all eternity. May the refreshing power of the resurrection save sinners such as us, give light to the despairing and bring justice to the poor, the weak and the innocent. We pray that You would be the calm children need, who are fearful from all they hear and see around them. Christ once dead is living, **welcome happy Morning!**

#3 Holy Spirit of new life let the joy of this day open our eyes to Your other miracles that surround us each day so that we don't take anything for granted. We pray for healthcare workers, first responders, for those who clean our public buildings, for grocery store workers, for pharmacists, for waste management workers. Help us to see this world from now on with Easter eyes, seeing beyond sin, beyond suffering and beyond the darkness of death to the Kingdom You are preparing, in which all will one day share. Christ once dead is living, **welcome happy Morning!**

A- Lord, today we especially pray for Andy (Allewelt), Julia (Pollock), Doug (Russell), Barbara (Yorke), Claudia (Pohl), Matthew (Mortimore), Vivian (Close), Marsenna (Rentel), Carol Jean (Bruner), Arlene (Greenwald), Daniel and Kevin (Nardi), Jeff (DiVito), Erin (Selcher), Megan (Dawson), Roberta (Kissinger), Christine (Schrack), Asia (Amway). Receive Joey into Your kingdom, Lord. Rest eternal grant him and let light perpetual shine upon him. We pray for the freedom from suffering of all living creatures everywhere. We pray for all to whom death draws near this very day. We pray for those dear to us whom we now name in our hearts before You ... (a moment of silence). Faithful God deliver us from a sudden and unprepared for death and receive our prayers, as we watch and wait for Your coming. All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of Your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Offering

Your offerings at work – This year our offerings have provided for the Lord's Pantry, Coatesville Kids to College, and the children at Silver Springs/Gemma Services and those without a home in Philadelphia and West Chester. It provided Vacation Bible for children in our family and community, a safe place for Narcotics Anonymous to meet and preschool children from the community to grow and learn. God loves all and when you give, you help prove that.

Our offerings supported our Synod's ministries as they reached out to those who are living without homes in Philadelphia through "The Welcome Church" (a church without walls). And our Churchwide ministries of the ELCA with nearly 350 new-start ministries across the county as well as 240 missionaries in 40 countries around the world.

We thank you!

Offertory Prayer

P – Let us pray; Teach us, O God, how to glorify You in our offerings. Reveal to us how to enrich the life of the world with goodness overflowing from the cup of bountiful blessing You have filled for us. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Meal

P - The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

P - Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

P - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

P - It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,... archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise Your name, ***Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!***

P - Praise to You for creating the heavens and the earth. ... O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

***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 the table

P - Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia!
Come to the feast.

HOW TO SERVE

For those who are by themselves, take a piece of bread and say the “the body of Christ, broken for me.” Then take the cup and “the blood of Christ shed for me.”

If there are two or more of you, You can commune the person to your right (or left) and go around the table that way.

The person distributing the bread says, “Body of Christ, given for you.” The person distributing the wine/grape juice should say, “Blood of Christ, shed for you.” The recipient can respond with “Amen.” Some choose to cross themselves.

Finish all the bread and wine – either as we commune together, or as part of your Easter meal.

Blessing after Communion

P - May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His peace.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

A - Holy Lord, at Your table we have tasted forgiveness and drunk Your love. Send us now into our homes and neighborhoods to be the pardon of God to the lost and the blessing of Christ to our neighbor, through Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

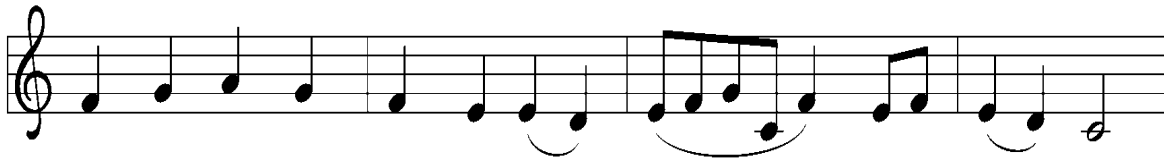
P - May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the ✝ Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sending Song

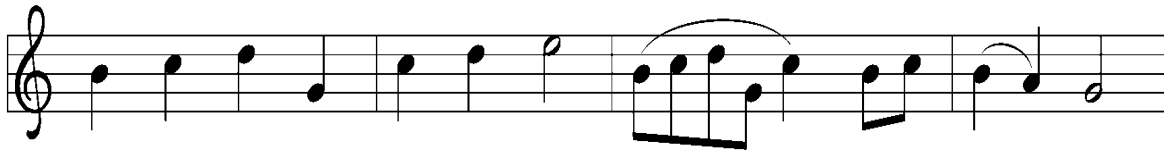
Jesus Christ is Risen Today



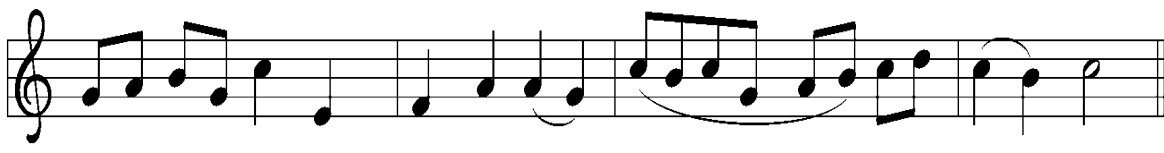
1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



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!

Dismissal

A – You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reid Simmons