

## EASTER DAY: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Such Earthshaking News?!!!!

April 20, 2014

### AS WE GATHER

Shelters are built for surviving tornados, but when an earthquake happens, everything and every place is threatened, sometimes with terrible destruction and loss of life. Both tornadoes and earthquakes get your attention. When God moved at the right time to send the Savior promised of old, the entire cosmos was shaken as with a veritable explosion, for, wonder of wonders, God Himself became Man, "born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law" (Galatians 4:4-5). We are familiar with times the Bible reports of physical signs accompanying God's word and action, such as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, or when the earth shook as God spoke to Moses and Elijah. So we are told when the crucified, dead, and buried Savior rose from the dead, an earthquake captured everyone's attention. The unlikely witnesses of the women were given the news to report. The unbelieving guards, on the other hand, feared for their lives. Today, we become the unlikely witnesses of this most amazing event in the history of the world. The good news of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life shakes up everyone who will hear and believe. The kettledrums roll as thunder, floors shake, trumpets sound—Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**7:00 & 9:00 BELL ANTHEM** "Risen Lord"

**+ PREPARATION +**

*(Rise and face the entrance of the sanctuary)*

### INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**People: Death is swallowed up in victory!**

Pastor: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

**People: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

(1)

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

**People: "I caused your grief and sighing by evils multiplying as countless as the sands." It was our sin that caused Christ to die to ransom us from the death of sin. By the power of your death and resurrection, Lord Jesus, forgive us and raise us to new life.**

Pastor: The risen Jesus is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. Whoever believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**EASTER GOSPEL** Matthew 28:1-10 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped 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."

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN #457 "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 heav'nly king, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!

Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

(2)

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God the Father, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

## FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

**7:00 & 9:00 ANTHEM** "Easter Acclamation" Jack Schroeder & Lanny Allen *Choir*

**11:00 SOLO** "Was it a Morning Like This?"

## EPISTLE Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

## SERMON HYMN #465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

*Rise for the last stanza*

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, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift He brings, There-fore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O 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 lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring And with the heav'nly 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!

## SERMON

*"First Light"*

Matthew 28:1-10

**7:00 & 9:00 ANTHEM**

*"He Is Risen"* Jack Schroeder

*Choir*

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Risen and eternal Lord, we come before your Father this day rejoicing in your resurrection and praying in confidence for His mercy upon us and all people as they have need. Blessed Lord, you raised up Jesus Christ from death to show forth the fulfillment of your promise and to assure us that our sins are forgiven and eternal life has been prepared for us and all believers.

**People: Keep us in this holy joy, that in all the days of our trials and troubles we may remember His victory over sin and death, that He has overcome this world, and be comforted in all our needs.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have given to us hope and established us in the peace of Christ, our Savior. Give also to your Church the boldness to speak without fear the message of the cross and empty tomb.

**People: Raise up faithful pastors to serve us in your name, and bless the work of all your servants both here and throughout the world.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have established the nations and hold accountable all those who govern in every place. Bless those who lead us in this nation and all who make, administer and judge our laws.

**People: Give to the nations leaders of integrity who will pursue the causes of peace, justice and freedom for all.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have brought the promise of freedom to all who live in captivity to sin and its death. Give to all prisoners and their families the comfort of your presence, and bring all to repentance and faith.

**People: Bless those who serve on our behalf in the Armed Forces of our nation, and as police, prison guards, firefighters and emergency medical personnel.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, all good and gracious gifts come from your hands: life and salvation, marriage and family, and special times spent with loved ones. We give thanks to you for Mike and Sandy as they celebrate their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary and with Brooke celebrating the birth of her daughter Reese.

**People: Grant us all to rejoice in all your good gifts, day by day.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you raised up Christ as Lord of life and of death. Deliver the sick from their illness, give relief to all who suffer, bestow comfort to the grieving and keep the dying in perfect peace especially those whom we name before you: Marion, Carol, Susan, Virginia, Lou Ann, Mae, Charles, Dennis, Rosalie, Dorothy, Ruth, Warren, Dorothy, Sarah and Joe.

**People: Wherever people cry to you, fill them with faith to know your mercy and grace is sufficient for their every need.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you give to us this Holy Sacrament as the remembrance of our Lord in His suffering and the foretaste of His feast to come. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and to drink His blood.

**People: Fill us with fervent faith that we may receive from this Holy Communion every gift and blessing He imparts, especially our unity of faith and life as God's people in this place.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have bestowed upon us hope beyond imagination in the promise of our own joyful resurrection with Christ to everlasting life. Fill us with greater faith that Christ's resurrection assures our own resurrection on the Last Day. Comfort Denton with resurrection hope and peace as he remembers Linda.

**People: Accept now our grateful song of praise in the joy of Easter, and help us by your Holy Spirit to live worthy of the grace of life you have so richly bestowed on us here.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have brought us to this new day of hope and joy through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Hinder the work of all enemies of your Gospel so that this Easter message may be proclaimed to all people in every place.

**People: Bring many to share with us the faith and hope we have in the promises of your Word.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you bid us come to you with confidence that you will hear and answer the prayers of your faithful people. Grant to us all things needful and keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

## THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI #633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" Stanzas 1,4,7

At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King.  
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas'chal victim, paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**7:00 & 9:00 BELL ANTHEM** *"With High Delight Let Us Unite"*

**HYMN # 474 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"**

Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

*Refrain:* **Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our eyes;  
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

**Refrain**

Jesus the vine, We are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, Gift of the future now flowing to me.

**Refrain**

Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

**Refrain**

City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
River of life, Saints and archangels, Sing with creation to God the I AM!

**Refrain**

**HYMN # 469 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"**

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today!" Saints on earth and angels say;  
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won;  
Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led; Foll'wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!  
Thee we greet triumphant now: Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

**HYMN #475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"**

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

The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen**

Pastor: Christ is Arisen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit be in you and go with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #478 "The Day of Resurrection"**

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light  
And, list'ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,  
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!  
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne  
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!

Preacher	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Lectors	Marty Osell, Dalen Heinzen, Grant Gundersen
Acolytes	Sam Baxter, Connor Boinski, Amanda Crist
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller
7:00 & 9:00 Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Bell Choir Director	Jan Schneider
Accompanist	JoLynn Bender
Soloist	Stacey Kukor

***Bulletin Sponsors:*** Sandy & Mike Geboy celebrating their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

***Radio Sponsor:*** Denton Ebert in loving memory of his wife, Linda.