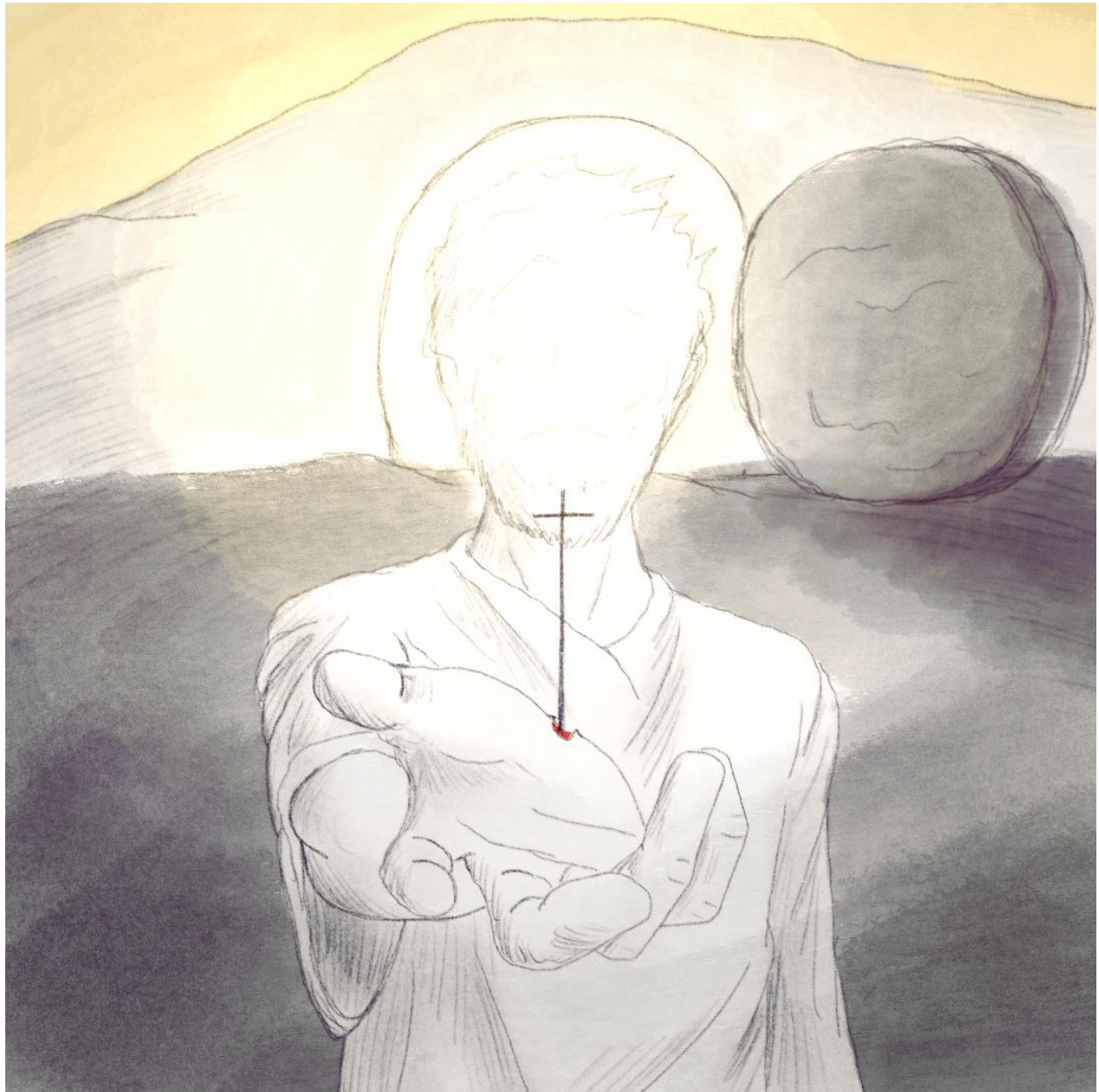


Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



He Lives to Take Me from Death to Life

Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023



“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”

Prince of Peace
Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME!

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We pray that the time spent here in God’s house helps you to appreciate how dearly God loves you! He invested the life blood of his one and only Son into your salvation and offers the blessings of that sacrifice to us through Word and Sacrament! May God bless our worship today!

THEME FOR TODAY

A dead Jesus would do no one any good. But a resurrected Jesus? That changes everything! That would make Easter the most important event that has ever happened. Today God wants us to know with certainty that Jesus lives, because if Jesus lives, then so will his believers. God had told his Church what was going to happen. Jesus told his disciples what would happen in Jerusalem. The disciples were slow to believe the Easter truth. But God ensured that his people had witnesses to proclaim that Jesus lives again. He suffered and died according to Scripture (Second Reading), he fulfilled the sign of Jonah (First Reading), and it was attested to by angels (Gospel). Christ is risen indeed! Mankind is redeemed! Jesus has removed the fear of eternal death. Jesus has transformed physical death. Jesus has made us spiritually alive by giving us faith in his resurrection. Jesus lives! So, in every possible way, Jesus takes us from death to life.

THEME FOR THE EASTER SEASON

Life is full of either/or moments. Some are relatively insignificant: either I have the chicken, or I have the fish. Some may shape the course of your life: either I move to take this new job offer, or I stay in my current job.

Here is a much bigger either/or — either Jesus is still dead, or Jesus rose. One might ask, “How does that either/or affect me?” It affects you because Jesus claimed to be the Son of God and Savior from sin and said the proof would be that he would rise from the dead. “The Son of Man must suffer many things ... be killed and after three days rise again” (Mark 8:31). Thus, if Jesus remains dead, he is both failure and fraud. However, if Jesus rose from the dead, he proves he is who he claimed to be—the Messiah and he did what he came to do—save us.

We believe this life-changing truth. Christ is risen! He lives! Throughout this season, we explore what that means:

HE LIVES!

- Easter Sunday – He Lives to Take Me from Death to Life
- Second Sunday of Easter – He Lives to Give Me Proof and Peace
- Third Sunday of Easter – He Lives to Restore My Hope
- Fourth Sunday of Easter – He Lives to Be My Good Shepherd
- Fifth Sunday of Easter – He Lives to Be the Only Way to Heaven
- Sixth Sunday of Easter – He Lives and Calls Me to Live for Him
- Festival of Ascension – He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

CW 438

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

938 This Is the Feast

CW 938

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

Sunday School Choir (10:30am)

"Because" by Shawna Edwards

First Reading

Jonah 2:2–9

Jesus once told the Pharisees that the only sign he would give to “this wicked and adulterous generation” would be the sign of Jonah. Just as Jonah emerged from the belly of the fish after three days, so Jesus would emerge victorious from the grave on the third day.

²He said:

“In my distress I called to the LORD,
and he answered me.

From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help,
and you listened to my cry.

³You hurled me into the depths,
into the very heart of the seas,
and the currents swirled about me;
all your waves and breakers
swept over me.

⁴I said, ‘I have been banished
from your sight;
yet I will look again
toward your holy temple.’

⁵The engulfing waters threatened me,
the deep surrounded me;
seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶To the roots of the mountains I sank down;
the earth beneath barred me in forever.
But you, LORD my God,
brought my life up from the pit.

⁷“When my life was ebbing away,
I remembered you, LORD,
and my prayer rose to you,
to your holy temple.

⁸“Those who cling to worthless idols
turn away from God’s love for them.

⁹But I, with shouts of grateful praise,
will sacrifice to you.

What I have vowed I will make good.
I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

If Jesus had not been raised from the dead our faith would be in vain.

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 1:18



Refrain



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

I am alive for ever and ever!
And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Refrain

Gospel

Matthew 28:1–10

The women go to Jesus' tomb, hearts full of disappointment. A dead Jesus does no one any good. But disappointment quickly turns to joy as the angel tells them that Jesus had risen, just as he said he would.

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

²There 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. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then 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.”

⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

440 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

CW 440

Note: Men (only) sing verse 2. Women (only) sing verse 5. Entire congregation in unison for all other verses.

Sermon

Matthew 28:1–10

Do Not Be Afraid

I. The Savior is risen

II. Life is yours

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life. **Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.**

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom. **Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.**

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.

Offering

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CW 441 1-4

***** verses 1 – 4 only *****

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

***** verses 5 – 8 only *****

CW 441 5-8

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY	Pastor Gone for Grow in Grace Ministry Retreat
SUNDAY	9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper

FLOWERS

Rachel Muehlfield celebrated her birthday yesterday. Her family provided the chancel flowers today to thank God for the blessings Rachel has brought into their lives. Each birthday is a reminder to us that life flies by quickly. It is so important that we remember that Jesus Christ has come to give us life everlasting – without such hope we only count the years until our passing! We thank God for the gift of faith He has worked in Rachel's heart so that she can enjoy her birthdays with confidence that she has everlasting life for Jesus' sake. Happy birthday, Rachel!



EASTER EGG HUNT



Thank you to all who donated candy or money for the Easter Egg hunt!

EASTER BREAKFAST

Thank you to all who helped to make Easter Breakfast happen this year!



EASTER LILIES



If you purchased Easter Lilies you may take them home after the 10:30 service.

Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
4/2/23	\$ 2,890.00	4/2/23	63	4/2/23	\$ 2,530.00
Month to Date	\$ 2,890.00	4/6/23	32	Month to Date	\$ 2,530.00
YTD	\$ 56,796.00			YTD	\$ 12,470.00
Budget YTD	\$ 52,101.00			Budget YTD	\$ 9,175.00
2022 YTD	\$ 52,340.00	4/7/23	39	2022 YTD	\$ 11,154.00

Weekly needs April Operating Offering

\$ 3,786.00

Monthly Mortgage Payment

\$ 2,867.00