



“YOU ARE WITNESSES
OF
THESE
THINGS.”

LUKE 24:48

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 14, 2024

This service is live streamed for broadcast on YouTube.

GATHERING

Prelude: *Jesus Is Alive*

Chorus

Hallelujah Jesus is alive
Death has lost its vict'ry
And the grave has been denied
Jesus lives forever
He's alive He's alive

Verse

He's the Alpha and Omega
The first and last is He
The curse of sin is broken
And we have perfect liberty
The Lamb of God has risen
He's alive He's alive

Chorus

Verse

Chorus

Verse

He's the Alpha and Omega
The first and last is He
The curse of sin is broken
And we have perfect liberty
The Lamb of God has risen
He's alive He's alive
Hallelujah Jesus is alive!

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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!

Washed 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 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!

Gathering Hymn: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today (He is Not Dead)*

Verse 1

Christ the Lord is risen today Alleluia

Sons of men and angels say Alleluia

Raise your joys and triumphs high Alleluia

Sing ye heavens and earth reply Alleluia

Verse 2

Lives again our glorious King Alleluia
Where oh death is now thy sting Alleluia
Dying once He all doth save Alleluia
Where thy victory oh grave Alleluia

Chorus

He is not dead He is alive
We have this hope in Jesus Christ

Verse 3

Love's redeeming work is done Alleluia
Fought the fight the battle won Alleluia
Death in vain forbids Him rise Alleluia
Christ has opened paradise Alleluia

Chorus

Verse 4

Soar we now where Christ has led Alleluia
Following our exalted Head Alleluia
Made like Him like Him we rise Alleluia
Ours the cross the grave the skies Alleluia

Chorus (Repeat twice)

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading

Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading:

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who

sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Too Good to Be True?

Hymn of the Day: *Alive Forever Amen*

Verse 1

Let the children sing
A song of liberation
The God of our salvation
Set us free
Death where is thy sting
The curse of sin is broken
The empty tomb stands open
Come and see

Chorus 1

He's alive, alive, alive
Hallelujah alive
Praise and glory to the Lamb
Alive, alive, alive hallelujah
Alive forever amen

Verse 2

Let my heart sing out
For Christ the One and only
So powerful and holy
Rescued me
Death won't hurt me now
Because He has redeemed me
No grave will ever keep me
From my King

Chorus 2 (repeat twice)

I'm alive, alive, alive
Hallelujah alive
Praise and glory to the lamb
Alive, alive, alive hallelujah
Alive forever amen

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.

Prayers of Intercession

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.

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, help us to trust that your good news is for us and for the world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty especially Caden, Monica, James, Hugh, Kim, Grace, Steve, Jane, Richard, Peggy, Dan, Hollis, Sue, Judy and the family of Mark Kollasch (father of Kerry Stecker).

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn.

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.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

During this time please take a moment to greet one another with a wave and smile. Your offering may be placed in the plates as they are passed by the ushers, or you may support the ongoing ministry of Redeemer by making your offering electronically, online from our website or through our Simply Giving program.

Offertory: Rise Up (Lazarus)

Verse 1

In the dark and all alone
Growing comfortable
Are you too scared to move
And walk out of this tomb
Buried underneath the lies that you believed
Safe and sound stuck in the ground
Too lost to be found

Pre-Chorus

You're just asleep
And it's time to leave

Chorus

Come on and rise up
Take a breath you're alive now
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us
Out from the grave like Lazarus
You're brand new

The power of death couldn't hold you
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us
Out from the grave like Lazarus
Rise up rise up rise up
Out from the grave like Lazarus

Verse 2

When he said your name
The thing that filled your veins
Was more than blood
It's the kind of love that washes sin away
Now the door is open wide
And the stone's been rolled aside
The old is gone the light has come so

Chorus

Bridge

He's calling us to walk out of the dark
He's giving us new resurrected hearts
He's calling us to walk out of the dark
He's giving us new resurrected hearts, oh

Chorus

Offering Prayer

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.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

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.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table. We believe Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine, and we invite all to partake of God's grace and forgiveness through Jesus' body and blood. If gluten-free bread is needed, please ask the server. White grape juice is available in the center rings of the tray. Please come forward at the direction of the usher. Children who are not yet communing may come forward for a blessing.

Communion Hymn: Forever

Verse 1

The moon and stars they wept
The morning sun was dead
The Savior of the world was fallen
His body on the cross
His blood poured out for us
The weight of every curse upon Him

Verse 2

One final breath He gave
As heaven looked away
The Son of God was laid in darkness
A battle in the grave
The war on death was waged
The power of hell forever broken

Pre-Chorus

The ground began to shake
The stone was rolled away
His perfect love could not be overcome
Now death where is your sting
Our resurrected King has rendered you defeated

Chorus (repeat twice)

Now forever He is glorified
Forever He is lifted high

And forever He is risen
He is alive and He is alive

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

We sing hallelujah we sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah the Lamb has overcome
(REPEAT)

We sing hallelujah we sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah

Ending

And now death where is your sting
Our resurrected King has overcome
He's overcome oh

Communion Hymn: *Amen Because He Lives*

Verse 1

I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood

Chorus

Amen amen
I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
Amen amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives

Verse 2

I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away

Chorus

Bridge

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life
My future in His hand

Chorus x 2

Because He lives
Because He lives

Prayer after Communion

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. **Amen.**

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

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. **Amen**

Sending Hymn: *My Redeemer Lives*

Verse 1

I know He rescued my soul
His blood has covered my sin
I believe I believe
My shame He's taken away
My pain is healed in His name
I believe I believe

Pre-Chorus

I'll raise a banner
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

Chorus

My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives

Verse 1

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

You lift my burdens
I'll rise with You
I'm dancing on this mountaintop
To see Your kingdom come

Chorus x 2

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Worship Support:

Praise Band: Kari Borlaug, Jean Britsch, Beth Coffey, Jennifer Hansen, Steve Hansen, Amy Howell, Michael Ide

Greeters: Keith & Diane Marshall

Ushers: Bill Bunger, Josh Hummel

Reader: Anne Borlaug

Communion Assistants: Reva Harris, Jo Richey, Donna Moon

Acolyte: Foster S.

Altar Guild: Jill Jacobsen (Saturday), Donna Moon (Sunday)

Audio/Visual: Gary Borlaug, Steve Hansen, David Hotchkiss