WELCOME TO EMMAUS LUTHERAN!



Easter Festival Service Sunday, March 31, 2024

GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US:

The Risen Christ Has Swallowed Up Death Forever!

The entire fallen world is veiled in a funeral shroud "that is spread over all nations" and "cast over all peoples" (Is. 25:7). But the Lord of hosts, in the Person of the incarnate Son, Jesus Christ, has removed that terrible pall and swallowed up death forever. By submitting Himself to death, He

burst it apart from the inside out. Now He wipes away all tears from our faces, and He invites us to "be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Is. 25:9). His body and His blood, crucified and risen, are given and poured out for us as a feast "of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined" (Is. 25:6). We enter that feast through Holy Baptism, whereby our old man is buried with Jesus Christ, and we are raised up in Him, "dressed in a white robe" of His perfect righteousness (Mark 16:5). What St. Paul and the other apostles received "by the grace of God" is also "delivered to you" by the preaching of Christ, "in which you stand, and by which you are being saved" (1 Cor. 15:1 –11).



WELCOME! What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer. Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol + in the bulletin. If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign the burgundy fellowship pad.



WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN: Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, *Totes for Tots* activity bags are available as you enter church (by the information table) for children to use during the worship service. Each bag contains books and

quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you! A *Cry Room* is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie's room (east hall) where you can listen to the worship service.

DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE? If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God reveals Himself to us and gives us Hs gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don't worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord..." Psalm 122:1



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RESTROOMS are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl's locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting One Pg 151 Divine Service
Lutherans follow an order of worship based exclusively on Scripture and focused completely on Jesus. Through the Word and Sacraments, God speaks to His people.

Prelude Handbells

Thine Is the Glory (Handel)

Congregation please stand and face the Processional Cross.

Easter Acclamation

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

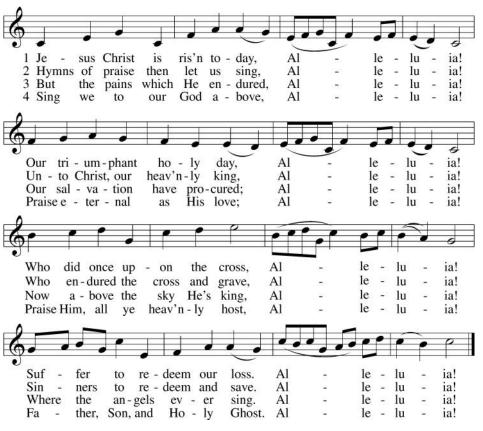
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P = Pastor

L = Liturgist/Lector **C** = Congregation

Processional Hymn

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



Text (sts. 1-4) and Music: Public domain

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

This hymn has the same theme as Charles Wesley's "Christ the Lord is risen today." Alleluia is the perfect word for Easter Sunday - it simply means "Praise the Lord." (Luke 24:6-7; 1 Corinthians 15:20: Revelation 1:18: Psalm 98)

Invocation is from the Latin for "call upon": the words spoken at the beginning of the service: serves as a reminder of Holy Baptism.

- P In the name of the Father and of the → Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Confession is the act by which one admits or confesses sin(s) and the guilt of sin.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

means "set free."
This Latin term was
used as a
translation of the
biblical word
aphiemi, meaning
"to set free, cancel,
or forgive."

Absolution literally

C Amen.

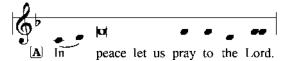
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit Adult Choir

He is risen, Alleluia! Why seek ye the Living among the dead? Alleluia! Remember how He spake unto you: the son of Man must be crucified and the third day rise again. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou crownedst Him with glory and honor; Thou madest Him to have dominion of the works of Thy hands. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Introit is a collection of passages from Scripture that set the tone for the services; verses are different each Sunday.

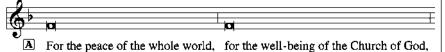
Kyrie Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

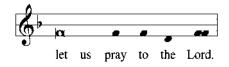


and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



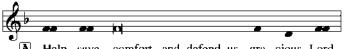


A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise





Kyrie is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." It is the first prayer of the congregation in the Divine Service; it is a cry for mercy that our Lord and King will hear us and help us in our needs and troubles.



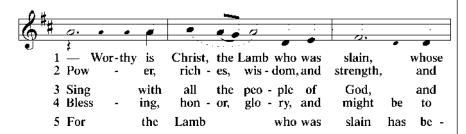
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.

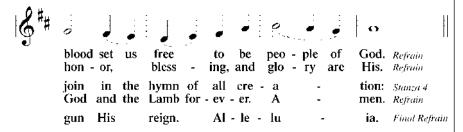


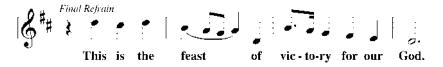
Hymn of Praise This Is the Feast











Our Hymn of Praise is based on Revelation 5 and 19. (Revelation 5:12-13: 19:5



Salutation and Collect of the Day



2 Timothy 4:22

The Salutation shows the special relationship between the congregation and the pastor, God's representative. It is a greeting found often in the Bible.



P 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.

C Amen.

The Collect is the pastor's first prayer in the name of the people, as he speaks for the congregation. It "collects" the theme for the day in a concise way.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Summary: A prophecy of Isaiah fulfilled in Christ! Gradual Adult Choir

God's Son in Triumph Rose Today (Michael Praetorius) God's Son in triumph rose today. His glorious victory did display. Hallelujah! Redemption is declared complete; We, with eternal praise, Him greet. Hallelujah! We now thank Thee, Thou Saviour great, Our lives to Thee we dedicate. Hallelujah! With Thee in heaven's home on high we will Thee ever glorify. Hallelujah!

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The Gradual is a response of praise between the Old Testament and Epistle readings.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy 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 toward me was not 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gospel Procession

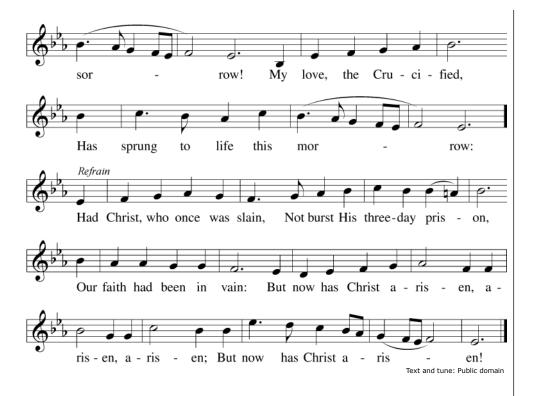
Congregation please stand for the Gospel Procession.

482 This Joyful Eastertide



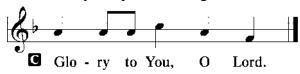
Summary:The Resurrection is
REAL! Praise be to
God!

(1 Corinthians 15:17-20, 51-52; Revelation 14:13)



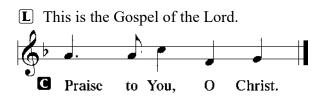
Holy Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.



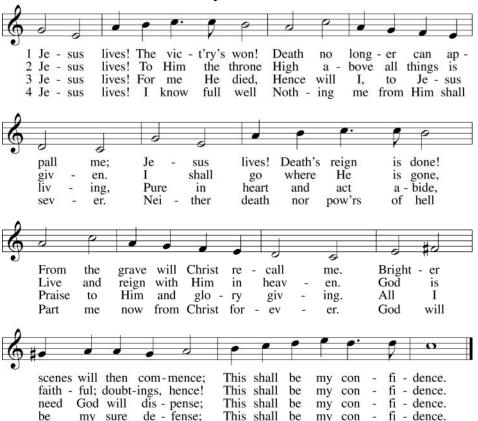
¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Summary: Jesus has risen!



Congregation please remain standing for the Gospel Recession.

Hymn of the Day 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



Jesus lives! And now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

This hymn is based on John 14:19. Because of Christ's resurrection we can be sure of the new life that we Christians begin to experience now and will receive fully on the Last Day. (Romans 8:11, 35-39; 2 Corinthians 5:15; Philippians 1:20-21)

Sermon

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the **Scriptures** and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

The Sermon: The preacher proclaims God's Law and Gospel for the hearers.

The Creed is a solemn confession and response of faith to the Word. The Nicene Creed was composed in A.D. 325.

Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Offering

The offering will not be collected during the worship service this morning. Please place your offering in one of the collection plates located at the back of the sanctuary. Extra offering envelopes are available on the hymnal cart. If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at www.emmausfortwane.org and click on "Give Online" or use Vanco Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you for your support of the ministry at Emmaus!

Voluntary Adult Choir

Alleluia! Christ Has Destroyed Death (Kevin Hildebrand) Alleluia! Christ has destroyed death. Alleluia! And has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Alleluia!

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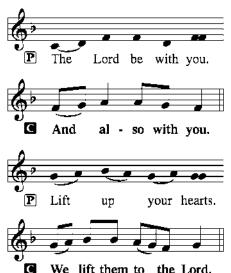
The Prayer of the church includes prayers that what has been heard may be taken to heart and that God would take care of our needs.

The Offering symbolizes the "spiritual worship" of Christian lives offered in response to God and unites the faithful in an act of fellowship.

The Voluntary is an offering of musical praise

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Preface



2 Timothy 4:22

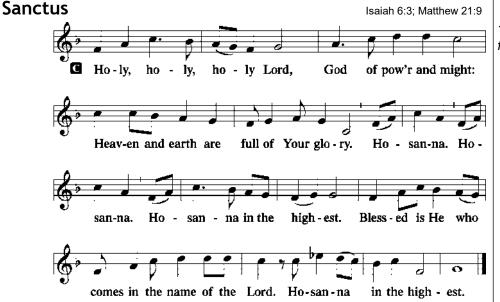
[Colossians 3:1]

The Preface is a proclamation of praise and thanksgiving that begins the Service of the Sacrament. A dialogue between pastor and the people used since the Early Church.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Proper Preface is a special prayer said before the Lord's Supper that emphasizes the key themes of the feast, occasion, or season of the Church Year.



The Sanctus is Latin for "holy."

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Prayer of thanksgiving is offered at the altar by the pastor on behalf of the congregation. It thanks God for instituting the Sacrament for our forgiveness.

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.

The Lord's Prayer is the model prayer Jesus taught to the disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). Sometimes it is called the Our Father, after the first words of the prayer.

The Words of Our Lord

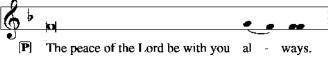
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24 Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25 The words spoken by Christ when He institute the Sacrament of the Altar; the pastor speaks these very words of Christ at the consecration of the bread and wine.



John 20:19

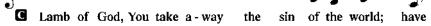




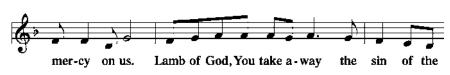
Pax Domini is Latin for "peace of the Lord." In anticipation of the blessings to be received, the pastor and people announce the peace of God to one another.



John 1:29



Agnus Dei is Latin for "Lamb of God"; we adore the Savior who is present in the Holy Meal.







Distribution

Our Holy Communion Practice

In Holy Communion we are joined in a personal way with Christ and with one another as we receive the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore, out of faithfulness toward God, and in sincere love that seeks to guard the spiritual well-being of all who would commune, Emmaus practices Closed Communion.

Holy Scripture clearly teaches that those communing together be unified in their confession of the faith, and also that those who commune unworthily do great harm to themselves. When a person partakes of the sacrament, he/she is also confessing his/her unreserved agreement with the doctrine and practice that is proclaimed from the altar and pulpit of which the Sacrament is administered. Therefore, we ask you to refrain from communing if you are not a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. All others are still welcome to come forward, crossing your arms to receive a blessing. Please speak with the pastor about receiving instruction to learn what Scripture teaches and our church confesses. We pray fervently for the day when Christ returns and all divisions will cease.

Thank you for respecting our practice.



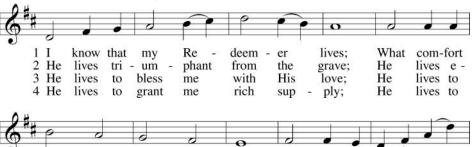
In the Distribution we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

Distribution Hymns Musical Selection

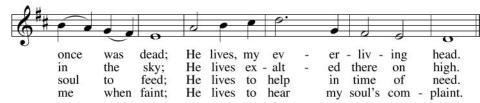
Handbells

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done (J. Wayne Kerr)

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



this lives, He lives, sweet sen tence gives! He who nal ly lives all glo rious ter to save; He plead for me a bove; He lives my hun gry with His He lives fort guide me eye; to com



- 5 He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end; He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death; He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

This hymn based on Job 19:25-27. As the sun rises on Easter morning, we can say with Job, "I know that my Redeemer lives." (Job 19:25-27; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 7:25; John 14:2 -3)

Choral Selection

Adult Choir

Come, Ye Faithful (R. S. Thatcher)

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness; God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness; 'tis the spring of souls today, Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days sleep in death as a sun hath risen. Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection. Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold thee as a mortal; but today amidst the twelve Thou didst stand, bestowing that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.

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463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia



3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia! When contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia! The grave has been "boasting" of its power since Eden; but now has finally met its match. Our Champion, Jesus Christ, fought and won - He has won the victory!
(Matthew 28:5-7; 1 Corinthians 5:7-8; John 1:29; Romans 6:9)

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Text and tune: Public domain

Post-Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord



The Post-Communion Canticle is a hymn of thanks.







Post-Communion Collect

P 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 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.

C Amen.

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26



The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and 'I' give you peace.



die,

cord

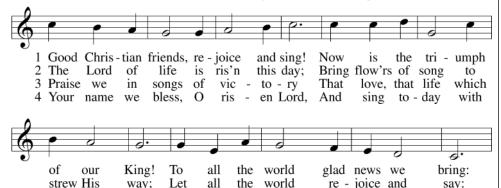
can - not

Congregation please remain standing for the Recessional and turn to face the cross as it is carried to the back of the sanctuary.

The Benediction is God's blessing for the congregation given through the pastor at the very end of the service.

Recessional Hymn

475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing



the victory of Christ's resurrection so that "all the world" will know the news. (Psalm 118:24; Matthew 28:8: Josiph 25:7.0)

This hymn rings in

(Psalm 118:24; Matthew 28:8; Isaiah 25:7-9; Romans 6:9)



with hearts

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And

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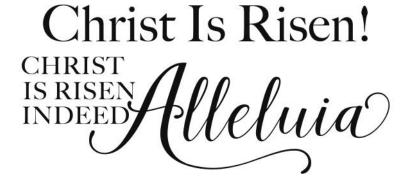
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Tune: Public domain

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Postlude



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Sunday School & Bible Classes

Our Sunday School & Adult Bible classes will not meet this morning. Adult Bible Class will resume next Sunday, April 7th. Sunday School classes will resume on Sunday, April 14th.

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Participating in Today's Service

Preacher & Celebrant: Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III Communion Assistant: Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss

Crucifer: Erik Olsen **Acolyte:** Trapper Durlacher

Bible Bearer: Seminarian Noah Dunsmore

Banner Bearer: Niko Spanos
Elder: Jacob Bushur
Organist: Mr. Timothy LaCroix

Choirs: Adult Choir & Handbell Choir

MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:

Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST through worship, life together, teaching and service.

This Week at Emmaus

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Communion Service

Monday, April 1 Church Office Closed NO School

Monday—Friday
April 1 - 5
Spring Break
NO School

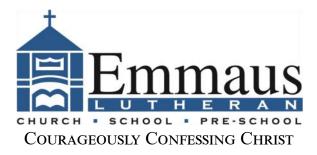
Sunday, April 7

2nd Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy

Communion

Acolyte: John Stockinger Elder: Jesse Steinbacher 10:20 a.m. Adult Bible Classes Sunday School Nursery: Hunter Durlacher & Esther Spanos



8626 Covington Road Fort Wayne, IN 46804 Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766 Church: www.emmausfortwayne.org School: www.emmauslutheranfw.org Check out our YouTube Channel: Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne



The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!

Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, *Pastor* Home: 260-267-5180 revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org

Darlene Heeren, Church Secretary
Timothy LaCroix, Music Director
Karen Detwiler, Family Care Coordinator



EMMAUS MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP FOCUS



STEWARDSHIP OF THE EARTH PART I

Stewardship Goal:

Courageously Confess Christ through the vocational aspects of Whole Life Stewardship now and into the next generations.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (Gen 1:26 ESV)

Family Stewardship Discussion Read the Bible verse above aloud first.

- 1. Julie Andrews in the <u>Sound of Music</u> encourages us to "start at the very beginning. A very good place to start." And so we begin with Genesis and creation. It is imperative to our understand of our place in creation, our care for God's creation, that we begin with the truth of Creation, not Evolution, not a Big Bang, but that God Himself who brought everything into existence through His Word! Take a few moments as a family and read Genesis 1. Take special note of verses 26 through 28, regarding mankind.
- 2. What is the relationship between how we were created along with the rest of the world? Our Lutheran Confessions, in Luther's Large Catechism, reminds us that "I am God's creature." How does this "creatureliness" form and shape our relationships, first in the vertical realm, with God, and second in the horizontal realm, our neighbor? See Ps. 139:13-14 and James 1:17-18.
- 3. Psalm 100 reminds us, "Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." (Psa 100:3 ESV) Before we begin talking about our care for the earth, for creation, why is it so necessary to remember that God made us and we are His people? Talk about how being "sheep of his pasture," relates to Jesus calling Himself, "The Good Shepherd."

We encourage you to take this insert home with you and use it as part of your family or

March 31, 2024

"LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR"

Resurrection of Our Lord – The Scriptures do not limit the sanctity of human life to a few isolated passages. Almighty God has made survival and salvation, abundant and everlasting, the point of the whole story. He intends His resurrection to encompass and affect every member of our race and every moment of our existence, from fertilization to forever. This is nothing less than the Gospel of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)!

Life Thoughts in the Church Year are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. Life Thoughts are based on the appointed readings from Lutheran Service Book. www.lutheransforlife.org

Remember in Prayer this Week

FCG Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating
Ruth LLV Inverness Lakes: Beverly Baals

Luke Riley Children's Hospital, Indianapolis: Layla Stockinger, received bone marrow

transplant on January 9th

Moses Ashton Creek: Doris Snyder, for rehab after having hip surgery and invertiplasty proce-

dure

Deborah Ashton Creek: Carol Rose, for rehab

Matthew Sue Behny, recovering from pneumonia

Joseph Bill Bradley, recovering from surgery

Ruth Marti Evans, as she continues to experience health issues

Moses Eric Hoffman, recovering from surgery

Moses Pamela Richter, experiencing health issues

Adam Connelly, friend of Karen Detwiler, continued trouble with cancer

Faith Ells, (26 years old), friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment

Mercury, grandson of Steve & Bev Lee, pray for courage and strength

Lisa Reece, friend of the Rosenkoetters, who is nearing life's end

Crystal Wilson, friend of Amanda Heeren, undergoing treatment for a brain tumor.

Deborah

FCG

Deborah Family Care Group: Dawn Behny, Jim Behny Family, Bruns Family, Kyle & Donna Calloway, Stacy & Teri Owens, Carol Rose, Marley Rose, and the Spanos Family.

Dray fo

<u>Pray for</u>For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers;

for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

<u>Serving in the Armed Forces:</u> James Rockrohr, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving in the U.S. Marines; **Paul Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving as

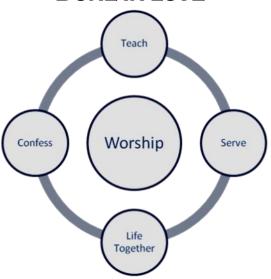
Please Note: As prayer requests come in we will keep them on the prayer list for one month, unless specifically requested otherwise.



EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES

For the week of March 31, 2024

DONE IN LOVE



SERVING THE LORD

THANKS! Thank you to all those involved with changing the decorations around our building. It's wonderful to see the different displays for the changing times of the church year and the seasons. It's always beautiful!

THANK YOU OUTREACH TEAM! We would like to thank the Outreach Team for taking the time to decorate the bulletin boards for us and for all to see the wonderful news of the Gospel as they come into the building each day.

THANK YOU - God has richly blessed us with many gifts in our congregation! Among the most blessed is one another. Thank you for working together, side by side as the Body of Christ, to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

NURTURING THE FAITH-

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Our Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes will not meet this morning.

Adult Bible Class will resume next Sunday, April 7th.

Sunday School Classes will resume on Sunday, April 14th.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

<u>Higher Things Reflections</u> - Easter Sunday—the Seventh Week of Easter (3/31 to 5/18/2024) booklets are available as you leave from the table in the front hallway. Please feel free to pick up a copy and take one for a friend. Daily Reflections are provided by Higher Things. www.higherthings.org.

<u>Portals of Prayer</u> - We have the devotion booklets for April to June 2024. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

- LIFE TOGETHER–

Worship Attendance

Sunday, March 24, Worship: 114 Adult Bible Class: 56

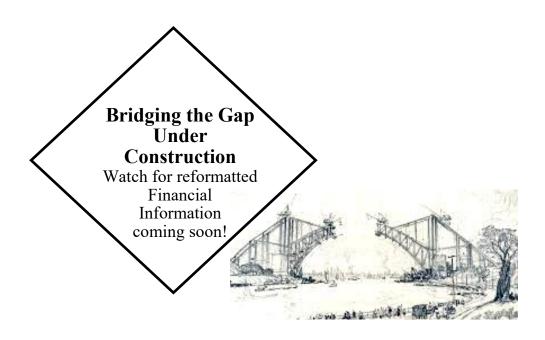
PRESCHOOL AIDE NEEDED - Emmaus Lutheran Preschool, 8626 Covington Road, is in need of an afternoon aide for the remainder of this school year. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, please contact Joann Olsen, Preschool Director, at jolsen@emmauslutheranfw.org or 260-459-7722, ext. 1012.

SUBSTITUTES FOR TEACHERS & AIDES NEEDED - If you or someone you know would be interested in substituting for a teacher or a classroom aide, please contact Mrs. Spanos for more information, 260-459-7722, ext. 1002.

CHAPERONES NEEDED - Want to spend time deepening your faith and connecting with our congregational youth? Consider attending Higher Things, 2024! We are looking for interested chaperones for the June 25-28 conference in Mequon, WI. You can find out more by texting or calling Laura Bruns at: 219.670.6454 or scanning the OR code!



LWML THREE ZONE SPRING RALLY - The LWML Three Zone Spring Gathering is **Saturday**, **April 13th** at 8:30 AM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Cost is \$7 with light breakfast served. Call or text Lisa 260-446-6700 with questions or to RSVP.



EMMAUS FACEBOOK PAGE! - Emmaus has a new Facebook page. Follow us at https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089549997428&mibextid=LQQJ4d or scan the QR code to view the page! If you have any event photos please send them to either Kirsten Bohnke at kirsten.bohnke@gmail.com or Paul Stockinger at paul_stockinger@yahoo.com.





PRAYER REQUESTS - Did you know...You can share your prayer requests or praises by clicking "Prayer" on the Emmaus homepage at emmausfortwayne.org.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6

WAYS TO HELP EMMAUS:

Kroger Community Rewards This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. It's easy! Here's how:

- 1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
- 2. Under your account options select "My Account."
- **3.** Scroll down the page and select Community Rewards" (left side of screen). (continued on pg. 6)

FATHER TO SON EVENT:



Saturday, May 4, 2024

The Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest community improvement program that Fort Wayne has participated in for nearly 30 years. It is a time when we can show our community pride by lending a hand to clean up littered roadsides, parks, trails and river ways. Emmaus Lutheran wants to be an active part of our community.

Please be sure to sign up at the table in the front hall, or call the church office by Sunday, April 14th, so that we can order sufficient supplies and T-Shirts for everyone.

FATHER AND SON WORKING
TOGETHER, SIDE BY SIDE, TO SERVE OUR
NEIGHBOR.

SAVE THE DATES!

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS FOR HIGHER THINGS

PULLED PORK LUNCH SUNDAY, APRIL 28

PARKING LOT SALE SATURDAY, MAY 11

If you cannot participate in these events, you will also have the opportunity to donate in the collection containers labeled for Higher Things. Thank you!

4. Under "organization Name" enter "Emmaus Lutheran School and Church" or use "organization Number" BF171.

Thank you to all who are participating in the Kroger Community Rewards. The amount we are receiving has increased four times the amount that we received in September 2023! We appreciate your support!

Advantage Recycling

We are accepting empty printer ink cartridges, old cell phones, and laptops. This helps keep those items out of the landfill and helps us as we will receive payment from the recycling company, Items can be placed in the box located inside the west entrance to the gym/sanctuary from the front hall. Monies from this program will be used for school supplies.

PROJECT CONNECT BOOOKLETS

Lutheran Hour Ministries 'Project Connect' booklets combine a subject matter expert's practical guidance on a variety of topics that pose real-life challenges to us, within a Christ-centered, Law and Gospel context ... What a powerful combination! You can find a variety of these booklets in the circular rack just inside the entrance to the sanctuary. This week's featured brochure: "Do You Know Who Jesus Is?" - Teaching kids who Jesus is should rank high hour on our must-do list. This booklet, written in four-line stanzas will click with kids immediately as they discover their Savior and the love He has for them.

GREETING CARDS - \$1.00 EACH - Our Women's Guild has a nice variety of Dayspring cards on the carousel at the back table. Stop by before or after service and browse all the many choices. Pick up a beautiful "thinking of you" and "praying for you" cards which are perfect for our Care Groups, family and friends. ALSO, If you want unique, blank notecards, how about our Emmaus cards at \$6.00 for a 12 pack? They were designed by Bill Schmidt and are perfect for ANY occasion. We all love to receive cards and notes. Take the time to do it, and share your love and prayers.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - **Please be sure to set up your electronic giving on the Vanco Mobile app.** You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please stop by the church office or call us at 260-459-7722. We also have an info sheet that shows how to make gifts with the app available from the table in the front hall.

WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS - If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). Please contact the church office, 459-7722 and press "3".

Dave & Joan Kendall

MEMBER CALLER - We have set up our account for the new service to call all our members. Please add the phone number of **855.248.7295** to your caller id or your phone address book and entitle that contact as the Church Call so that it will be identified properly on your caller id. If your phone number has changed or you need to add an additional number for your household, please see Darlene so that she can update the call list.

GENERAL —

DEADLINE FOR EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES: Please submit information to the Church Office by Noon on Wednesday to be included in Sunday's publication.

ROYAL MESSENGER NEWSLETTER - The deadline for submitting information for the April/May 2024 issue is Monday, April 1st (no joke!). Please send any info on upcoming events to the church office by e-mail to: dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org. Thank you!

-OTHER —

ISSUES, ETC. LUTHERAN RADIO IN EXILE...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune into interviews on subjects like "Answering Tough Questions About the Christian Faith: Common Objections", "Bad Uses of the Law of God", "Signs and Symbols in the Church" and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

WORSHIP ANEW is broadcast weekly on <u>Sundays</u> at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program: *Boy! Do I Love Him!* - Easter Sunday is so filled with joy! The sudden turn of events in the life of Jesus and His disciples. Even though He had told the disciples about it ahead of time, no one remembered this would be. Death is swallowed up in victory. In the resurrection of Jesus, death is undone. The plug is pulled on death. And this brings us great joy! Sermon Text: Isaiah 25:6-9. Speaker: Rev. William Mueller.

CTS EASTER EVENING PRAYER - Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, extends an invitation to an Easter Evening Prayer service on **Sunday**, **April 14**, at 4:00p.m. EDT at Kramer Chapel, featuring Bach Cantata 67, "Hold in Remembrance Jesus Christ," performed by the Schola Cantorum and Kantorei choirs under the direction of Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. This event will also be livestreamed. For additional detail, visit ctsfw.edu/events.

SHEPHERD'S HAND 4TH ANNUAL 5K RUN &WALK - Sign up now for The Shepherd's Hand 4th Annual 5K Run & Walk that will take place on Saturday, May 4th, at 1231 S Anthony Blvd. Early Registration Fee: \$20.00/person and includes t-shirt. Ribbons for finishers, Prizes for winners, and family fun! Register online at: runsignup.com. For more information, please email: the shepherdshand5k@gmail.com.

CAMP LUTHERHAVEN - What are you doing this summer? Spend time at Camp Lutherhaven! With so many fun activities from Archer to Zip, Zap, Zoey (a fun game played at Camp) to jumping in the lake, there is so much to experience! Most importantly, spend time in God's Word and grow in your relationship with Christ. Summer 2024's theme is "Wildfire," coming from Psalm 78:4. Join in spreading the glorious deeds of the Lord like wildfire with everyone who comes to Camp Lutherhaven this summer! Register before April 1st and receive the Early Bird discount! Register online today at www.lutherhaven.org, or call for more information at 206-636-7101

LCMS FOUNDATION - Gift Planning creates solutions for donors. A gift planning counselor is a built-in companion for the journey so that you don't have go through the process alone. Your need for answers might be as simple as, "How do I change a beneficiary designation to create a gift from my estate?" Your LMS Foundation Gift Planning counselor can help you get hold of these competing priorities. Contact Mark Muehl at Mark.Muehl@lfnd.org or 260-241-4845.

CROSS CONNECTIONS - S.O.S. at Cross Connections: The Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections has a Serve our Servants fund (S.O.S) that provides free counseling for all active duty military, police, fire, and EMT personnel and their families. If you or somebody you know would benefit from these services please speak with pastor or call Cross Connections at 260-373-0213 to learn more.

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST NEEDED - Cross Connections Counseling Ministries is currently hiring a Part Time Receptionist. Responsibilities will include maintaining confidentiality, answering phones, scheduling, greeting clients, supporting counselors, minor

bookkeeping, general hospitality and miscellaneous clerical duties. 20-28 hours a week, weekday hours. Positive, ministry work environment. Pay varies based on experience. Knowledge of QuickBooks, accounts payable & receivable a plus. Send resume to: kirkreber@crossconnectionscounseling.com or call 260-260-373-0213, ext. 105.

NIPSCO ENERGY ASSISTANCE - Beginning December 1, incomeeligible customers, seniors, active military and veterans experiencing financial difficulty paying their gas utility bill may apply for additional NIPSCO energy assistance programs. Available programs include NIPSCO Hardship, SERV (Supply Energy Resources to Veterans) and SILVER (Seniors in Indiana Low-Income and Vulnerable Energy Resource) that will allow customers to receive a one-time benefit of up to \$400 per year if they qualify. To see the full list of requirements for SILVER, customers should visit NIPSCO.com/ and IncomeEligible. There, customers may also apply for the appropriate program by completing and submitting an online self-attestation form and uploading documentation, if required. Applicants should allow 30 business days for the form to be received and processed. If program requirements are met, a one-time credit will be applied to the applicant's NIPSCO gas residential utility account.

FORT WAYNE LUTHERAN We have copies of the current issue of The Fort Wayne Lutheran available at the table in the front hallway as you leave today. The issue is also available online at www.myfwl.org for those who have computer/internet access.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY MAGAZINES - We have copies of the magazines from both Ft. Wayne Campus and St. Louis campus available from the Information Rack. These publications provide information on what's happening at our seminary campuses. Please feel free to pick up a copy.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

CLHS Trivia Night Moves to April 12th

Originally slated as a Fall event, Trivia Night will now be taking place in the Spring! On Friday, April 12, have a blast with friends and put your knowledge to the test at our CLHS Trivia Night! The entry fee per couple is \$50 or bring an in-kind donation of \$50+ value. All donations will support the Cadets in Cadence Silent Auction later this year.

Register your team today at clhscadets.com/apps/pages/trivia-night

CLHS Summer Programs Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for summer camps and classes at Concordia! CLHS hosts a number of Summer Camps and Summer Academic programs for students of all ages (K-12 during the 2023-24

school year). Camps range from sports to computers to band and drama. There's something for everyone! And if you're looking to get ahead on your classes, sign up for one of our Academic programs. Classes are available onsite or online. Students from all schools in grades 8-12 are welcome!

We are offering an online registration and payment system for all Summer Camps and Classes through CampBrain. To learn more about our summer programs or to register, go to:

clhscadets.com/apps/pages/summer-at-CLHS

Payment is due at the time of Registration. Many camps offer a t-shirt to campers, included in their registration fees. The registration deadline to be guaranteed a t-shirt is May 10, 2024. After that date, a t-shirt is not guaranteed.

For any questions, please contact our athletics office at (260) 969-6868 or athletics@clhscadets.com.

For questions regarding the summer classes, please call Nancy Koehler, summer classes coordinator, at (260) 483-1102, ext. 313 or email nkoehler@clhscadets.com.

Concordia Varsity Boys Basketball Win Sectional Championship Congratulations to the CLHS Varsity Boys Basketball team who won their sectional championship on Saturday, March 2 beating Leo by a score of 62-58!

Concordia DECA Students Fare Well at State Competition The CLHS DECA team represented our school well at state competition. Respect, kindness and care for others was evident and noted in a number of occasions in the competition which took place March 3-5 in Indianapolis. Our high school saw 27 students compete among a record 2,300 DECA students from around the state of Indiana. Four students qualified for international competition. View the results here: https://www.clhscadets.com/apps/news/article/1895109