

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

MARCH 31, 2024

LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD FOREVER! ... STARTS NOW!

+ PREPARATION +

The people gather in silence in, if possible, an unlit sanctuary.

GREETING

P May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The pastor lights his candle from the Christ candle.

P The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

After the altar candles are lit, the pastor speaks once again.

P The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The lights throughout the worship area are lighted.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Alleluia”

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” (*LSB* 457)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Romans 6:9; Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7–8; Psalm 118:24, adapted*

P We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C **death no longer has dominion over Him.**

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under His feet.

P This is the day that the LORD has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us now confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father.

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a blessed life on earth and finally a glorious eternal Easter vision of the Savior and life full and complete with Him in heaven forever. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen” (LSB 474)

+ WORD +

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

P The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

P The Epistle is from First Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 16:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

HYMN:

“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done” (LSB 464)

SERMON

Psalm 41:12–13

OFFERING (The Bell Choir ““Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven.”)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN

“Hymn of Heaven” (Wickham)

Verse 1

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets
To look upon the one who bled to save me
And walk with Him for all eternity

Chorus 1

*There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord*

Verse 2

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation
The songs of faith
We sang through doubt and fear
In the end we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears (*Chorus*)

Verse 3

And on that Day, we join the resurrection
And stand beside the heroes of the faith
With one voice a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Forever He shall reign

Chorus 2

*So let it be today
We shout the hymn of Heaven
With angels and the Saints
We raise a mighty roar
Glory to our God*

Who gave us life beyond the grave
Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord
Holy holy is the Lord

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

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

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for in Christ our risen Redeemer You have given us the victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil. Pour out upon us the gift of Your Spirit, that we receive Your blessings with true thanksgiving. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION (*Continuous flow Communion*) Bell Choir “Easter Proclamation”

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (Choir/Congregation) “The Day of Resurrection” (*LSB 478*)

Verse 1 - Choir ONLY (X2)

The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad.
The Passover of gladness. The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Verse 2 - Choir ONLY

Our hearts be pure from 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

Verse 3 – Choir and Congregation

Now let the heav’ns be joyful, Let earth her song begin.
Let the round world keep triumph, And all that is there in
In visible and visible, their notes let all things blend.
For Christ the Lord is risen, Our joy that has no end.

Verse 4 - Choir ONLY

For Christ the Lord is risen,
Our joy that has no end.
Praise the Lord for He is risen!
He is risen today!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Unite us in faith and life so that we continue to be Your holy people who share Your love with everyone as we await the fullness of Your eternal kingdom,

where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** 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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN

“This Joyful Eastertide” *(LSB 482)*

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This Week at St. James

- Wednesday (4/3)** Darrell’s Bible Study - 10:00 AM
- Thursday (4/4)** Adult Bells – 6:00 PM
Adult Choir – 7:15 PM
- Saturday (4/6)** Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study -8:30 AM
- Sunday (4/7)** Gizmo on FB - 8:00 AM
Communion Service (Mites Sunday) - 9:30 AM
Bible Study - 11:00 AM
LWML Meeting – 6:00 PM

Looking Ahead

Serving Today (3/31)

- Officiant Pastor Glenn Schaeffer
- Lector Pastor
- Organist Beth McKay
- Deacon(s) Craig Popma / Bryan Ensing
- Ushers Walt & Karen Kryzanowski / Caleb Buttler / Jim McKay
- Video/Sound/Recording..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
- KidzTime Open
- March Altar Guild..... Kelsey Butler

Serving Next Sunday (4/7)

Lector	Cherie Hood
Organist.....	Beth McKay
Deacon(s)	Dave Hood / Jerry Talen
Ushers	Dale & Grace Rosema / Caleb Butler
Video/Sound/Recording.....	Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
KidzTime	Open
April Altar Guild.....	Kim Urbanski / Carol Bifulco

Financial Discipleship: March 10, 2024

General Fund	\$4,101.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$1,668.00)</i>	
Tessaro Ministry (Nigeria Mission)	\$20.00
<u>Pastor's Rwandan Trip</u>	<u>\$610.00</u>
TOTAL Contributions	\$4,731.00

Announcements

What is the connection between our mental health and our spiritual well-being?

This will be the topic that Rev. Gary Zieroth will address at the Circuit Convocation on Saturday, April 20th at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. There will also be a couple breakout sessions that address this issue as well. Rev. Christopher Nuttelman will discuss how the Psalms can help deal with the daily realities and struggles of life. Rev. Terry Hoese introducing people to Jesus, the Valiant One highlighting resources like Spiritual Warfare, Jesus Never Fails, Bible Stories in Pictures, and many more publications available through Lutheran Heritage Foundation. For more information about the Grand Rapids Circuit Convocation and to register, please visit: <https://immanuelgr.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/84/responses/new>. Mail in Paper registration forms are available on the table in the lobby/narthex. Childcare is available. A catered lunch will be served. Due to a generous Michigan District CEF grant, the registration and a catered lunch is FREE. If you can't come for the whole day, come for part of the day! *The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 10th.*

Mission Trip Rwanda 2024 – Pastor Schaeffer will be heading to Rwanda on Sunday afternoon, April 21 for a two-week mission trip during which he will lead a three-day seminar on The Lord's Prayer. He will also lead a daylong session on the topic of tithing and will preach in several churches in various regions of Rwanda. If you would like to make a financial contribution to help offset the cost of the mission trip, please make a check payable to: St. James Lutheran Church and in the memo line write: "St. James"

Mission Fund.” If you make a cash donation, please print on the document: St. James’ Mission Fund.

You’re Invited to Participate in St. James’ Leadership Retreat -- On the weekend of April 12-13th, you are invited to participate in St. James’ leadership retreat. The retreat will begin on Friday evening (7 p.m.-9 p.m.) and will continue Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). The retreat will be held at the Warner Building (downtown Grand Rapids). We will spend the time in prayer and studying God’s Word. We will identify the opportunities and challenges we are facing as a congregation and begin to develop a plan to address these opportunities and challenges. If you plan to attend the retreat, please sign up on the sheet is on the table in the lobby by the church office by April 2.”

DROP-OFF DAYS for 2nd Best Sale: Saturday, April 20 and 27. Bring your 2nd Best Sale items to the church from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We cannot accept mattresses, box springs, analog (tube-type TVs), nursery furniture, medical items, or any items that are not usable or saleable. Donated clothing should be clean and gently used. Members of Friends in Faith will be present to unload your car and take everything into church for you! If items need to be brought to the church prior to the two Drop off dates, please contact Walt at 616-970-7407 or Dale Rosema at 616-262-1390. Volunteers are needed on Sunday, April 28 for set up and for sorting the items. Volunteers are also needed on Monday and Tuesday for sorting and pricing and Thursday through Saturday to assist customers. Donate an hour or two of your time or enjoy the 9-4 days with everyone. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be by the office.

Mark your calendar for the 16th Annual ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser! It’s time to sign up! This year’s ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser will take place on June 1st at Arrowhead Golf



Course in Lowell. It's time to assemble your team and get signed up! This will be an 18-hole shotgun start scramble format like in years past. Early bird registration for a foursome runs through April 12th and costs \$375. After April 12th the cost for a foursome cost is \$400. If you are not able to golf but interested in supporting the event you are able to do so through the same link/QR code. Proceeds from this event support the school by providing additional resources, technology devices, and supplies for the classroom. If you have questions please reach out to the school office at isjoffice@mychristianschool.com or a school board member from the congregation.

Issues As We Age: Beholding the Gospel in Life's Twilight will be presented by Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life at St. John's Lutheran Church Grand Haven, on Saturday, April 27, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm. Preregistration is required along with payment of \$15 per person which includes lunch, sent to St. John's before April 12. To register you can access the registration form and submit it via the QR on the poster on the Lutherans For Life of Michigan Facebook page, or email St. John's at: office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com or call 616-842-4510. You will also need to mail a check to St. John's Lutheran Church, 527 Taylor Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417. If you have questions please contact Paula Cate at 951-675-0823 or pcate2010@gmail.com.

Dorcas Meeting On Thursday, April 11th Dorcas will be meeting at 1:00 pm in the gathering room. We will be decorating lunch bags for the kid's food basket. They supply lunches for children who are food-challenged. Please join us for fun and fellowship.

Having A Heart for Africa – Calling all those who love to bake! The LWML would once again like to have a bake table at this Spring's Second Best Sale. If you would like to help raise funds for Rwandan mothers and babies, by baking, you can donate wrapped baked items. The dates for the sale are May 2-4, 2024.



The LWML Grand Rapids Zone Spring Rally, "Look and See" will take place on May 4th, 2024 at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Kentwood. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:45 am and the rally runs until Noon. Registration fee - \$10.00. Presenter –



Danielle Bult Executive Director of "Love INC". Danielle will speak to us on poverty, homelessness, people in need in our area and how we can help. **Ingathering:** Personal Care Items to be given to The Image – deodorant toothpaste, toothbrushes feminine care products, diapers, shampoo.

Knit /Crocheted Together in Love anyone ages 13 and up is welcome to join the next get-together on Sunday, April 21, 2024, from 11:45 to 2:00 pm. Need more information, please see the bulletin board outside the coat room or see Grace Rosema.

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual who comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations (and sister confessional Lutheran Church bodies), who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that the Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcoholic grape juice. Just let the Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.