ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

April 21, 2019
6:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship
The Resurrection of Our Lord—Easter Day

Christ is Risen!

As We Gather

Christ is risen! It’s hard to imagine someone who was killed on Friday rising to live again on Sunday. It has happened only once and is what we celebrate today: Jesus’ resurrection. Jesus didn’t keep His resurrection a secret. He appeared to many people. He appeared to Mary, to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, to Peter and the apostles, to His brother James, to more than five hundred people, and lastly to the apostle Paul. We believe Jesus rose from the dead because He said He would, because the Scriptures said He would, and because He appeared to many. Christ is risen and He lives to intercede for us on high! It was prophesied; it happened; Christ will come again just as He promised!
PREPARATION

PRESERVICE MUSIC
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Michael Burkhardt
“This Joyful Eastertide” Michael Burkhardt
“Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bonds” J.S. Bach
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” Paul Manz

PRELUDE “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Robert Hobby

GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

Please rise during the tolling of the bell.

OPENING HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the › Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Pastor: He died for our sins,
People: according to the Scriptures.
Pastor: He was buried in the tomb,
People: according to the definite plan of God.
Pastor: He rose from the dead
People: and appeared to many.
Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If Christ had not been raised from the dead, we would still be dead in our trespasses and sins. Let us consider our sinfulness and God’s great mercy in Christ.

Silence for reflection
Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We confess our shameful thoughts about our leaders, enemies, and strangers. We confess our inappropriate words spoken to our families, friends, and colleagues. We confess our inappropriate actions and thoughts toward our neighbors. For the sake of the risen Christ, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we follow in His footsteps both now and when He returns in glory. Amen.

Pastor: If Christ had not been raised from the dead, we would still be dead in our trespasses and sins, but Christ rose from the grave, and death no longer has dominion over Him! God did this in accordance with the Scriptures to forgive our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ and by His authority, I announce the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the *Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.
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
SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

Heavenly Father, You have given us hope for life beyond death in the resurrection of Your Son. Help us focus our eyes on the things of first importance: the death and resurrection of Jesus for our forgiveness, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.
Old Testament Reading: Job 19:23-27
(My Redeemer Lives.)

"Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes--I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:51-57
(Mystery and victory.)

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."
"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"
The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Congregation, please stand.

(Angels remind the women of Jesus' words.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the sixteenth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be
delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" LSB 457

SERMON "Against All Odds" Pastor John Larson
TEXT: Exodus 15:1-18

CREED—The Second Article with Explanation (Luther’s Catechism)
(Pages 322-323 in Your Hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
Heavenly Father, we live in a culture of distractions and diversions. Help us
to focus our hearts and minds on the things of first importance: Christ’s death and resurrection for sinners, for Christ is risen!

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

**Pastor:** Lord, You sent a messenger to proclaim Jesus’ resurrection to the women on Easter morning. Inspire us to share the message of Jesus’ resurrection throughout the world, for Christ is risen!

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

**Pastor:** Lord, there are many in this world who have been abused, neglected, and abandoned, suffering at the hands of evil people. Spread Christ’s resurrection victory into their lives of pain and hopelessness. Raise them from darkness into Your light, for Christ is risen!

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

**Pastor:** Lord, send healing and care to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, especially . . . . Comfort them with the hope of resurrected bodies that will be ours when Jesus returns, for Christ is risen!

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

**Pastor:** [Other intercessions may be added here….] Christ is risen!

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

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**People:** Amen.

**The Sharing of the Peace**

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

**People:** And also with you.

_We greet one another with a word of reconciliation, such as “Peace be with you.”_

**OFFERINGS**

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Paul Manz
The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!” a word of affirmation and belief.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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 singing:

SANCTUS

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD


Pastor: 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.”

LORD’S PRAYER

Text found in back of Hymnal
AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives” (Verses 1-4, 8) LSB 461
“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” With One Voice 673 (Blue Supplement)

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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 gi ve you peace. Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” LSB 477
CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

POSTLUDE

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”  Michael Burkhardt
2019 Lilies were given by:

Edna & Linda Achziger
Joyce Dowdy
Norm & Linda Finfrock
Jim & Judy Finnessy
Millie Fitzpatrick
Valorie Flickinger
Norm & Connie Fringer
Joan Fryman
Bill and Gloria Gaudreault
Ron & Ann Kaneko
Pastor John & Marilyn Larson
Dan & Kim McCormick
Jim & Laurie Mullane
Chuck & Gloria Mielke
The Rolling Family
Andy and Mavis Slifka
The Tunheim Family (in memory of Ava)
Adam Wilson & Jackie Viren
Fred & Kathy Wucherpfennig

THANK YOU!

2019 Palms were given by:

Bob & Marti Estes
Ron & Ann Kaneko
Chuck & Gloria Mielke
The Rolling Family
Charlotte Wilkinson
Adam Wilson & Jackie Viren
“They were at the tomb early this morning... they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.”

Luke 24:22-23, NRSV
## Serving in Worship

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pastor John Larson</td>
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<td>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES</td>
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<td>Michael Zehnder</td>
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<td>ELDER</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Don Loptien</td>
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<td>LECTOR</td>
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<td>CRUCIFER</td>
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<td>Chrissy Coon</td>
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<td>Nolan Pierce</td>
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<td>USHERS</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Art Gordon, Members of the</td>
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<td>Jason Dierking, Members of the</td>
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<td>SERVER</td>
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<td>Jude Donovan</td>
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<td>Charmaine Rohde, Laurel</td>
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<td>FLOWERS</td>
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<td>Anonymous, He has Risen!</td>
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