

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*April 11, 2021*

10:30 a.m. Sunday



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

The God Who Lives in our Homes and at Work

**AS WE GATHER** (*based on Ephesians 6:1-9*)

Though Easter is a season and not merely a Sunday, it can be hard to sustain the enthusiasm when attendance drops on “low Sunday.” That said, the source of our joy is not in the size of the crowd but the greatness of the gift that Christ has given us. We have the forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness for our sins, there is also life and salvation. We are held captive to fear, to the guilt of our sin, and to the power of death until Christ enters our “locked rooms,” shows Himself to us, and we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, rejoice in our Lord and God.

Two of the “locked rooms” Pastor John will talk about today are the “rooms” in our homes and at work. Do we let Jesus and His Holy Spirit reign and honor Him with our words and actions in these places or do we just let Him have His way in a theoretical sense when we are praising Him at Church? How parents treat children and how children treat parents, how employers treat their workers and how workers treat their employers is at the very heart of Christian living. The wonderful thing about the commandment to honor those in authority over us and treat those kindly who are under us is that this is “the first commandment with a promise”: things will “go well with you and you will enjoy a long and happy life on earth.” Prepare to be blessed!

**Gathering Song****That's Why We Praise Him!**

Walker

He came to live, live a perfect life; He came to be the Living Word, our light.  
He came to die so we'd be reconciled; He came to rise to show His pow'r and might.

**CHORUS: That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing;  
That's why we offer Him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this King,  
'Cause He gave His everything, 'Cause He gave His everything.**

Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. **CHORUS**

He came to live, live again in us; He came to be our conqu'ring King and friend.  
He came to heal and show the lost ones His love;  
He came to go prepare a place for us. **CHORUS**

Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. **CHORUS**

**✕ PREPARATION ✕****Pastoral Greeting****Opening Song****Death Was Arrested**

Kersh/Coker/Balltzglier/Smith

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope with no place to begin  
Your love made a way to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
My orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested and my life began

**CHORUS: Oh Your grace so free washes over me  
You have made me new now life begins with You  
It's Your endless love pouring down on us  
You have made us new now life begins with You**

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more  
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore  
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend  
When death was arrested and my life began **CHORUS**

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested and my life began **CHORUS**

Oh we're free free forever we're free Come join the song of all the redeemed  
Yes we're free free forever amen  
When death was arrested and my life began **(REPEAT)**

## Invocation

### EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:6–10*

Pastor: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,

People: **we lie and do not practice the truth.**

Pastor: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

People: **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: If we say we have not sinned,

People: **we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **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.**

Pastor: 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

**FORGIVEN**

✂ WORD ✂

**Ephesians 6:1-9**

(God's instruction for children and employees, parents and employers.)

**Children, obey your parents in the LORD, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"-which is the first commandment with a promise- " that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."**

**Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the LORD.**

**Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the LORD, not men, because you know that the LORD will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.**

**And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.**

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31**

(Blessed are those who have not heard and yet believe.)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th Chapter.

**People:** Glory to You, O Lord.

**On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which**

are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

### Children's Message

Pastor John Larson

### Hymn of the Day

### O Give Us Homes

CH 535



1 O give us homes built firm up - on the Sav - ior, \_\_\_\_\_ Where Christ is Head and  
2 O give us homes with god - ly fa - thers, moth - ers, \_\_\_\_\_ Who al - ways place their  
3 O give us homes where Christ is Lord and Mas - ter, \_\_\_\_\_ The Bi - ble read, the



Coun - sel - or and Guide; \_\_\_\_\_ Where ev - 'ry child is taught His love and fav - or \_\_\_\_\_  
hope and trust in Him; \_\_\_\_\_ Whose ten - der pa - tience tur - moil nev - er both - ers, \_\_\_\_\_  
pre - cious hymns still sung; \_\_\_\_\_ Where pray'r comes first in peace or in di - sas - ter, \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ And gives his heart to Christ, the Cru - ci - fied; \_\_\_\_\_ How sweet to know that,  
\_\_\_\_\_ Whose calm and cour - age trou - ble can - not dim; \_\_\_\_\_ A home where each finds  
\_\_\_\_\_ And praise is nat - ural speech to ev - ery tongue; \_\_\_\_\_ Where moun - tains move be -



tho' his foot - steps wa - ver, \_\_\_\_\_ His faith - ful Lord is walk - ing by his side.  
joy in serv - ing oth - ers, \_\_\_\_\_ And love still shines, tho' days be dark and grim.  
fore a faith that's vast - er, \_\_\_\_\_ And Christ suf - fi - cient is for old and young.

**Sermon** "The God Who Lives in our Homes and at Work" Pastor John Larson

TEXT: Ephesians 6:1-9

### Apostles' Creed

**People:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  $\times$  everlasting. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

**Pastor:** Lord, in your mercy...

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Offering** Offerings will be collected at the back, in the Narthex.

### ✠ HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION ✠

*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.*



### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

#### Preface (Divine Service, Setting One)

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

**People:** 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.

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

### Special Music (Solo)

### Victor's Crown

Darlene Zschech  
Bri Fort, vocalist  
Nicole Saiz, percussion

### Worthy Is the Lamb

Darlene Zschech

Thank you for the cross, Lord.  
Thank you for the price you paid.  
Bearing all my sin and shame, in love you came  
And gave Amazing Grace.

Thank you for this love, Lord.  
Thank you for the nail-pierced hands.  
Wash me in Your cleansing flow, now all I know...  
Your forgiveness and embrace.

Worthy is the Lamb  
Seated on the throne.  
We crown You now with many crowns  
You reign victorious!  
High and lifted up  
Jesus, Son of God.  
The darling of Heaven, crucified...  
Worthy is the Lamb.

### General Communion Blessing

*The body & the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ*



*strengthen you and keep you  
in His grace.*



## **Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)**

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 ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

## **Closing Song**

## **My Redeemer Lives**

Darlene Zschech

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!  
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**

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!

I'll raise a banner  
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave **CHORUS x 2**

You lift my burdens I'll rise with You  
I'm dancing on this mountaintop  
To see Your kingdom come **CHORUS x 3**

## **Congregational Concerns**

### **Dismissal**

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**  
*(and Row by Row Dismissal)*

## **Serving in Worship**

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
PRAISE TEAM

Pastor John Larson  
Michael Zehnder  
Agape