

# Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** It is our prayer that this will be a time of worship and renewal for you, when you will encounter the living God revealed in Jesus Christ.

## INTRODUCTION

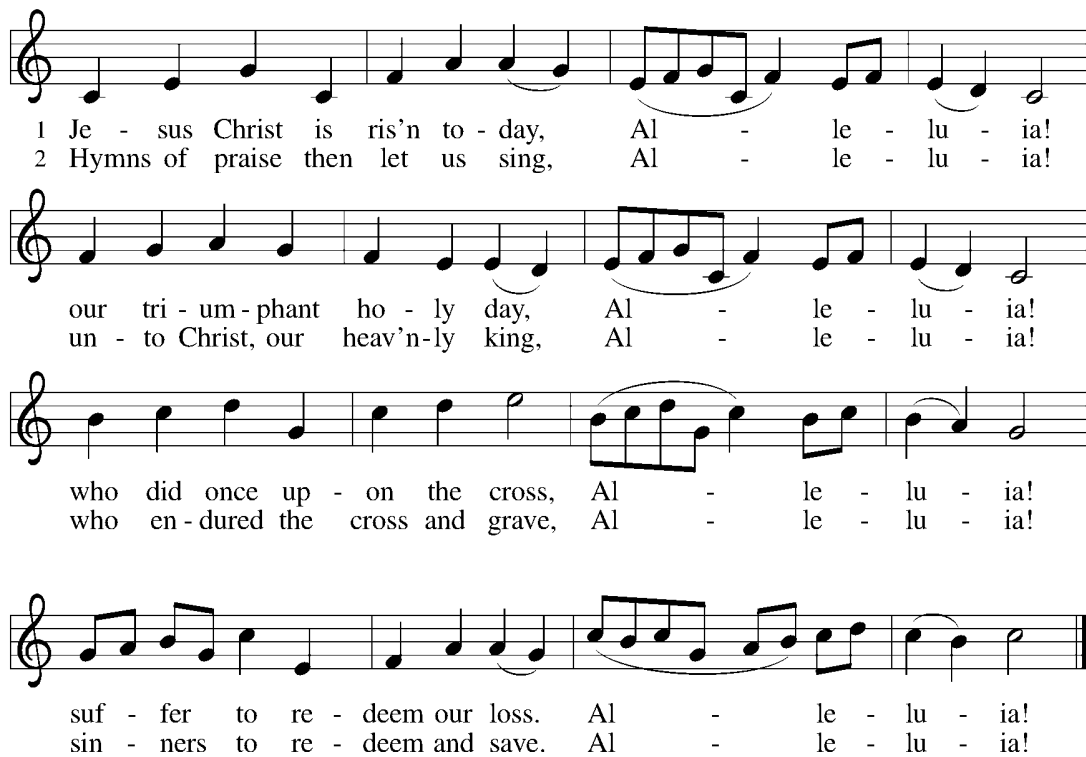
Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. And especially in these ongoing days of COVID, joy may not be our first reaction. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

## EASTER GATHERING AND THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## EASTER HYMN "Jesus Christ is Ris'n Today! Alleluia!" (vs. 1-2) ELW #365



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!

Loving One, you have been with us throughout our Lenten journey. You have accompanied us through the deserts of hopelessness and sin.

**You have been with us as we have passed through the valleys of struggle and the declines of despair.**

We waved our palms and rejoiced as you entered Jerusalem on a donkey and challenged the image of "king."

**You have shared our brokenness and offered the gift of your healing and forgiveness.**

Then, we witnessed your trial and death and heard your last words on the cross.

**We wept as you were laid in the tomb of our humanity.**

And for three days we have waited. Waited and wondered if the stone would yet be rolled away.

**But now, at the dawning of this first day, we have come with the women. To see the stone rolled away. To hear the news we do not expect.**

Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus, but he is not here. He has been raised. Go! And you will find him.

**And we rise. We dry the tears from our eyes. And we go. Not knowing what to think, really. But telling the news anyway.**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*The pianist plays ACS #955 through once, instrumental only, while the water is poured.*

**"Come to the Water of Life" (vs 1) All Creation Sings (ACS) #955**

1 All who are thirst-y for mer - cy, all who are thirst-y for  
love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,  
come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a melody with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) and a final whole note chord. The lyrics are aligned with the notes: '1 All who are thirst-y for mer - cy, all who are thirst-y for love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy, come: come to the Wa - ter of life.'

We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

**In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.**

When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

**At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.**

**"Come to the Water of Life" (vs. 2) All Creation Sings (ACS) #955**

2 All who are thirst-y for heal - ing, all who are thirst-y for  
touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,  
come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a melody with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) and a final whole note chord. The lyrics are aligned with the notes: '2 All who are thirst-y for heal - ing, all who are thirst-y for touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing, come: come to the Wa - ter of life.'

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**"Come to the Water of Life" (vs. 3) All Creation Sings (ACS) #955**

3 All who are thirst-y for beau-ty, all who are thirst-y for  
truth; all who are thirst-y for truth, for beau-ty,  
come: come to the Wa-ter of life.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features triplet markings over groups of three notes. The lyrics are: "3 All who are thirst-y for beau-ty, all who are thirst-y for truth; all who are thirst-y for truth, for beau-ty, come: come to the Wa-ter of life."

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

**"Come to the Water of Life" (vs. 4) All Creation Sings (ACS) #955**

4 All who are thirst-y for jus-tice, all who are thirst-y for  
peace; all who are thirst-y for peace, for jus-tice,  
come: come to the Wa-ter of life.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features triplet markings over groups of three notes. The lyrics are: "4 All who are thirst-y for jus-tice, all who are thirst-y for peace; all who are thirst-y for peace, for jus-tice, come: come to the Wa-ter of life."

Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious and merciful God, We come this Easter day to hear once again the words we so long and need to hear, that "Jesus is risen, just as he said!"  
Resurrect in us the joy of new life in Christ, that chosen by you as witnesses, we might proclaim your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **FIRST READING Isaiah 25:6-9**

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.  
And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death forever.  
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.  
It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

God's story, your story.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" ELW #172**



**SECOND READING Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

God's story, your story.

**Thanks be to God.**

**"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" ELW #172**



## **GOSPEL Mark 16:1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

### **Glory to you O Lord**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of our Lord.

### **Praise to you O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**EASTER HYMN OF THE DAY "Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" ELW #383**  
(Alternate Tune "Infant Holy" ELW#276 )

- 1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!  
Celebrate this day of days!  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:  
all creation is amazed.  
In the desert all surrounding,  
see, a spreading tree has grown.  
Healing leaves of grace abounding  
bring a taste of love unknown.
- 2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits  
from the caverns of despair.  
Walk with gladness in the morning.  
See what love can do and dare.  
Drink the wine of resurrection,  
not a servant, but a friend.  
Jesus is our strong companion.  
Joy and peace shall never end.
- 3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven  
nevermore shall be the same.  
Break the bread of new creation  
where the world is still in pain.  
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:  
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"  
God the First and Last is with us.  
Sing Hosanna, ev'ryone!

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

God of life and love, praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us in joy to tell the good news of your rising and to witness to your grace and forgiveness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life and bring it to blossom and flourish. Use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Bring together people of all nations and languages and fill them with your peace. As you reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings, remind us that in Christ everything is made new again. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, especially Sharla, Debi, Renee, Marion, Arne, Eva, Olai, Dave and Trudy, Carolyn, Lyle and Marlene, Olivia, Syd, Pastor Dick and Jan, Corrie, Patrick, Klaus, Shirley, Eowyn, Catherine, Grace, Lilian, Margaret, Clayton, Montgomery, Rosemary, Landon, Shellene, Elizabeth, Judy and Ron, and Miriam. Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



God of comfort, praise to you for wiping away our tears. Wrap your loving arms around all who are grieving today, especially Olai Egeland and family as they mourn the passing of his wife Suzy. Be their source of strength today and in the days ahead, and may they find comfort in the promise of eternal life in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of grace, praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Let our hearts overflow with that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. We give thanks for this community of faith and for all who led in worship today. Uphold the Worship and Arts committee and watch over Marvin and Helene Henrickson and Helen Holland. As we continue to deal with COVID, let our alleluias rise up and spill out, and help us to praise you with our whole heart. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **WE SHARE THE MEAL**

For those who desire, at this time our service continues with Holy Communion, as we prepare our hearts and minds and tables for the communion meal. Once again, if you have not already done so, take a moment to pause the video and gather the elements you will share during the meal, remembering that Christ promises to come to us in the everyday things: bread or a cracker, wine or grape juice or water, and whatever dishes you have in your cupboard. Gather enough for you alone or for those who will join you in the meal with none left-over. As God's people together we will share of the bread and wine directly following the Lord's Prayer as we hear the words:

"Together let us take and eat; the body of Christ given for you."

"Together let us take and drink; the blood of Christ shed for you."

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God of all goodness and life,  
Under the cover of darkness, plodding footsteps travel toward a tomb  
But the stone is already rolled away  
**Holy God, under the cover of darkness; you bring forth life**

Creating God, grower of all things,  
Under the cover of dark, damp soil; seeds that lay dormant  
are already sprouting  
**And under the cover of darkness; you bring forth life**

Loving God, of all hope and grace  
Into the darkness of our hearts, sorrow has watered the tears of our cheeks  
But new life is already bursting from the tomb of our ground  
**And under the cover of darkness; you bring forth life**

Gracious, resurrecting God  
In the darkness of the grave, lay the nail-pierced body of Jesus your Son,  
Broken and shared; love poured and tasted,  
Stones rolling and rumbling; life dying and rising,  
Sprouting and blooming, blooming and bursting, bursting and rising  
**Holy God, under the cover of darkness; you bring forth life in Christ rising for all**

And with all creation we give you our thanks and praise:

**"Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"** (chorus only) WOV #671

*Refrain*

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Gracious Christ, no matter the road we travel, you journey with us. No matter how we are gathered, you are our God. You are bread in our hunger, water in our thirst. You are vision in our blindness, and light where our hearts cannot see.

**Come Lord Jesus, be our light, be our rising, bring forth your life we pray**

Creating Holy Spirit, you are breath in our breathlessness, you are the Wind of change and the pouring of new wine; you gather us into communities of grace and life.

**Come, Holy Spirit, be our breath, be our rising, stir us to life we pray**

Loving God, we give you thanks for your life rising in and among us and in all creation. Raise us, your people and send us in grace to proclaim your abiding love for all; through Jesus Christ our Lord; in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Living in joy of the resurrection, we pray as Jesus taught us...

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

"Together let us take and eat; the body of Christ given for you."

"Together let us take and drink; the blood of Christ shed for you."

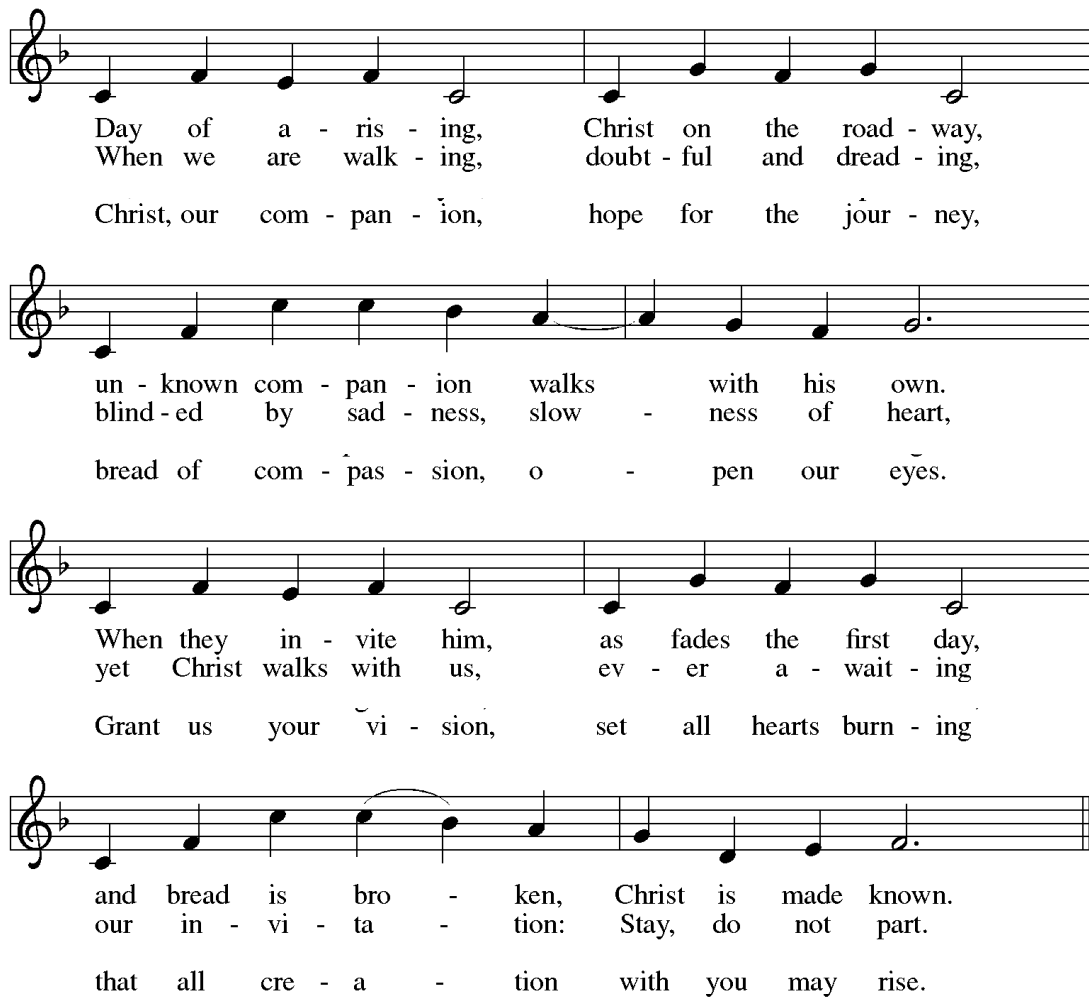
#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring healing to our world and joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING EASTER HYMN "Day of Arising" (vs. 1,2,4) ELW #374**



Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,  
un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.  
When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing  
and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

**SENDING**

Christ is risen, just as he said.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*Flowers during April are given in memory of Chris Saunders.*

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