



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
APRIL 24, 2022**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
34 E. Orange Street  
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993  
Web Site: [memluth.org](http://memluth.org)  
E-mail: [office@memluth.org](mailto:office@memluth.org)  
717-532-4614**

**Welcoming all  
Reaching out in love  
Growing together in Christ  
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

**The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr  
717-532-4614 or 724-989-8106 or [pastor@memluth.org](mailto:pastor@memluth.org)  
Office hours are Monday & Wednesday: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
*Tuesday & Thursday by appointment***

**Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

## **GATHERING**

### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"*

*- Burkhardt*

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please stand*

**GATHERING HYMN** *"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"*

**ELW 363**

*Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.*

*'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying  
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise undying.*

*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 strain Jesus' resurrection!*

*Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.*

*Alleluia! now we cry to our Lord immortal,  
who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;  
Alleluia! with the Son God the Father praising;  
Alleluia! yet again to the Spirit raising.*

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

*Read Responsively*

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, amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE** *"This is the Feast"*

*Read Responsively*

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.

**O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING**

**Acts 5:27-32**

*Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

<sup>27</sup>When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

150

READ RESPONSIVELY

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;  
praise God in the mighty firmament.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise God for mighty acts;  
praise God for exceeding greatness.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise God with trumpet sound;  
praise God with lyre and harp.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise God with tambourine and dance;  
praise God with strings and pipe.**

<sup>5</sup>Praise God with resounding cymbals;  
praise God with loud clanging cymbals.

<sup>6</sup>**Let everything that has breath  
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4-8

*The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.*

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. Alleluia. (John 20:29)**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

*The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Now the Green Blade Rises"*

**ELW 379**

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
 wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
 love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
 love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
 thinking that he would never wake again;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
 love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

## **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 into hell.  
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**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One who acts righteously, equip your church as witnesses of your goodness to go and tell others of your abundant love, that they may believe that Jesus is our salvation and life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Renew your people's commitment to use resources responsibly and to live well with your creation. Invite us to recognize and nurture signs of resurrection life in the natural world. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and compassion. By your Holy Spirit channel their attention toward serving those who are most in need. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold your children who cry out to you (*especially*). Wherever people are overcome by the fear of death, breathe into them your life and peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire those who lead your people in worship and praise (*especially the art and music ministries of this congregation*). With joyful motion and sound, send us forth with praise that we cannot keep to ourselves. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us the words of your saints who, like Thomas, boldly confessed your Son as Lord and God. With Jesus our leader, empower us to live according to his ways. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Everyone is to remain in their pew for the passing of the peace. To share the peace with someone sitting near you, share a slight bow, wave, or cross your arms with hands touching the opposite arm, a gesture of embrace.)*

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERTORY**

*The Ushers will collect the offering*

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Please stand*

## **MEAL**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **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.**

## **PREFACE - EASTER**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

*Read Together*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*(1 Corinthians 11:23b-25)*

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

*Please be seated*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.*

**COMMUNION HYMN "I Know That My Redeemer Lives!" ELW 619  
(verses 1-4, 8)**

*I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort  
this sweet sentence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
once was dead; he lives, my ever-living head!*

*He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives  
eternally to save; he lives exalted,  
throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.*

*He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to  
guide me with his eye; he lives to comfort  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's complaint.*

*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.*

*He lives, all glory to his name! He lives,  
my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest  
assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!*

*Please stand*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together.

**We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN “Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”**

**ELW 535**

Refrain: *Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our  
                  hearts are filled with gladness. Hallelujah! We sing your  
                  praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. (Repeat)*

*Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.*

### Refrain

*Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel.*

### Refrain

*Please be seated*

### **POSTLUDE “The Rejoicing”**

**- Callahan**

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**



**Jackie Bishop  
Peg Commerer  
Robert Florig  
Evelyn Fuller  
June Hile  
Bernita Killian**

**Jeanne Naugle  
William Porter  
Dorothy Railing  
Betty Reilly  
All Caregivers**



**Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr**

**Organist  
Nancy Fogelsanger**

**Bell Choir Director  
Kathy Kerr**

**Parish Coordinator  
Amy Piper**

**Youth Director  
Stacy McCole**

**Preschool Director  
Shirley Perry**