

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 2023

He is not here, for he has been raised.

Matthew 28:6

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

745 S. Ingraham Avenue Lakeland, Florida 33801 Ministers:

Pastor:

863-686-5585 gracelakeland.com The People of Grace Lutheran Church Rev. Pamela Smith

A Blessed Easter to You and Welcome to Grace!

Our worship is the foundation of our life together where we are nurtured in the faith, grow as disciples and offer ourselves in service to others in the name of Jesus Christ. We hope that you will find much in our worship and fellowship that captures your interest and wonder – perhaps the beauty of the stained glass images or the handcrafted cross behind the altar; the music of our choir and pipe organ will touch a special chord for you; the reading of the Scriptures proclaiming the Good News of Jesus.

After services, we invite you to join us for refreshments in Fellowship Hall where we can visit with one another. You may want to visit our Memorial Garden enjoying the beauty of the plantings that are native to Florida as well as the gurgling of the fountain. God has blessed us with this beautiful campus and the many hands that care for it. We are glad you are with us to enjoy it too!

Easter is not just a single day – at Grace, we celebrate Easter for Fifty Days until Pentecost on May 28th. Whether you are a regular worshiper with us, a seasonal visitor, or a neighbor and local visitor, we welcome you. Please join us for the coming days of worship and celebration!

May God bless our time together.

Pastor Pam+

Some Practical Things:

- **Children:** All children, even those who chat or cry or squawk, are welcome here. Some may enjoy one of the children's activity bags that an usher can provide.
- Restrooms are located outside of the narthex or lobby; ushers can further direct you.
- Holy Communion: We celebrate this Sacrament every Sunday. All baptized Christians are welcome at this, the Lord's Table. You will find more information in this worship folder. Our ushers will help guide you.

FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

PROCLAMATION



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Rejoice now, all heavenly powers! Sing, | choirs of angels! Exalt, all creation around God's throne! Jesus | Christ is risen!

Celebrate the divine mysteries with | exultations:

And for so great a victory, sound the trumpets | of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, || in shining splendor, Radiant in the brightness | of your king!

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanish- | es forever.

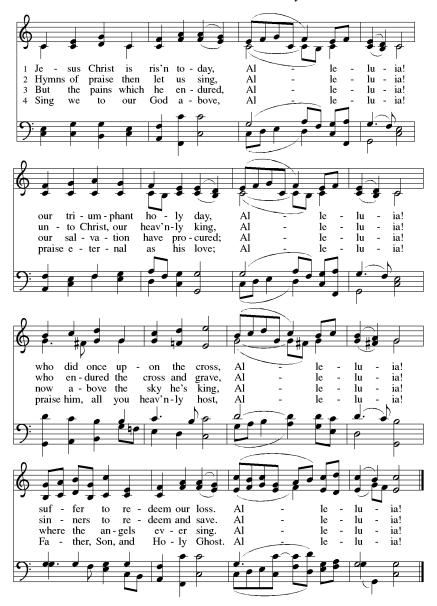
Rejoice O holy church! Exalt in glory! The risen Savior | shines upon you!

Let the place re- | sound with joy, Echoing the mighty song of | all God's people.

He | is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Al- | leluia!

GATHERING HYMN

Jesus Christ is Ris'n Today

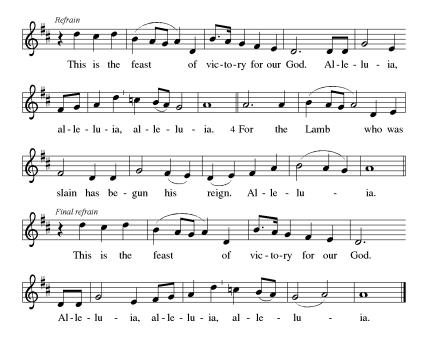


Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708

GREETING

HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Handbell Choir

Stralsund, 1665

+ WORD +

READING: Colossians 3:1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden

with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

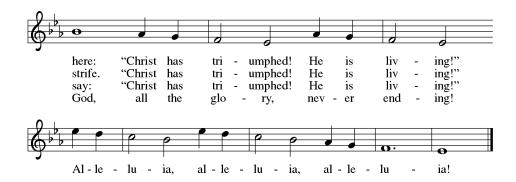
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now All the Vault of Heav'n Resounds

ELW 367





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 THE PEOPLE

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You call us all to witness to your salvation. We give thanks for all theologians, preachers, and teachers who proclaim your gospel. Equip all the baptized to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do. Risen Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You bring abundant life throughout creation. The plants of spring are growing, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You show your steadfast love without regard to borders, barriers, or human-made divisions and factions. Infuse your justice in every nation of the world so that all experience the peace that only you can give. Risen Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized, particularly, Arlene, Sherry, Mabel, Mike, Anna Mae, Julie, Carol G., Carole, Anne, Lydia, Paul, Wil, Betty, Scott, Ron, Flo, Terry, Doris, Dottie, Theresa, Marian P., Ian, Tim, Julie, Ed, Henry, Mary, Greg, and Max, and for all health care workers who care for them. Risen Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You have put gladness in our hearts. Inspire musicians and artists to rejoice with songs of victory. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who foster our assembly's song. Risen Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Other petitions may be offered.

As you have raised Jesus from the dead, you show us your resurrection promise. With your holy ones who have sung your praise free us from fear and empower us to go and tell the good news. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ MEAL +

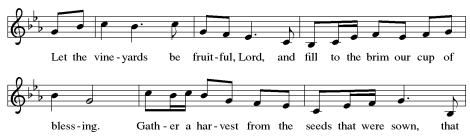
OFFERING

You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed during the service. Alternatively, some are using the Tithe.ly app. for online giving or are using their bank's online banking option. Whichever way you choose to give, we are grateful for your stewardship and generosity.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Awake, Arise Grace Choir Besig & Price

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song





OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

This is the day that in joy and delight we join with all the angels of heaven and all the creatures on earth to sing our praise and thanksgiving to you, all holy and mighty and glorious God.

For Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

This is the day that you gave light to the earth.

This is the day that you saved the Israelites through the sea and with your pillar of fire led them to freedom.

Now every night is as bright as day, and that light is Christ:

Thanks be to God.

This is the day that you broke the chains of death.

This is the day that, marrying heaven to earth,
you washed away sin, rescued us from evil, and brought us your peace.

The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign,
for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

On the night before he died, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and gave thanks, 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.

Again, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

On this day send us the power of your Holy Spirit. Revive us with the body and blood of our risen Savior. Illumine our lives with your presence, and shine your Morning Star over the whole human race, for that light is Christ:

Thanks be to God.

All holy and mighty and glorious God, radiant Father, victorious Son, and shining Spirit, we bless your salvation, we sing of your mercy, and we praise your victory through all time and space, for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

Amen and amen.

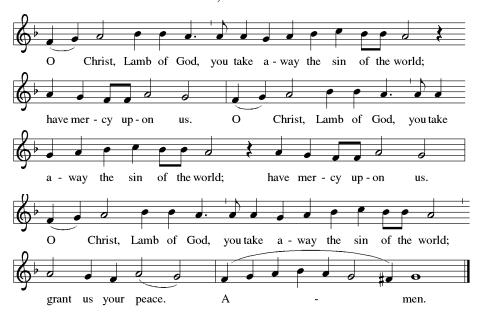
Amen and amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

O Christ, Lamb of God



DISTRIBUTION

The baptized children of God are invited by the Lord to the Lord's Table where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We commune at the head of the aisle where we receive the host. Then to either side of the pastor is first, a chalice for intinction and second, a common cup for drinking. Please indicate to Pastor if you prefer grape juice as a chalice for intinction is available as well. Gluten free bread is available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and Pastor will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Rejoice This Glorious Day Gelobt Sie Gott Pethel Vulpius, arr. Proulx

Grace Choir Brass Ensemble

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

I Will Extol Thee
Soloist Mark Thomsen

Frank LaForge

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

HYMNThine Is the Glory
(next page)

ELW 376





DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Tell everyone what God has done. He is risen.

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Sights and Sounds of the Season Donations

Donor's name

Lynn Powers

Caroline Low Mary Flekke

Naomi & Mark Thomsen

Pastor Pam Smith

Betty Leitenberger

Sue Wallace & John Edwards

Pat & Laura Blanchette & Sons

Donor's name

Terry & Carla McGee Russ & Judy Washburn

Janet Morris

Nora & Mike Dellwo

Pastor Pam Smith

In Memory of

Richard Powers
Gene Low

Muriel & John Flekke

Parents

Earl Smith

Bruce Leitenberger

Kent Wallace & Carol A. Edwards

Pat & Laura's parents & Laura's brother

Mr. & Mrs. Kimmerle

In Honor of

The Ministry of Pastor Pam

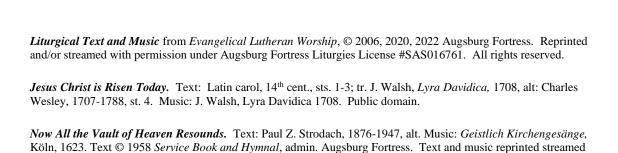
The Risen Lord

The Risen Lord

Our loved ones who have died

The Ministry of Grace Lutheran Church





Thine Is the Glory. Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939. Music: George Frideric

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Handel, 1685-1759. Public domain.

Over recent months we have added video and audio equipment to our sanctuary to livestream our worship services over Facebook, YouTube, or other platforms and also to have them available for later viewing through our website. Likewise, we may use still photography of church activities for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence with us, you acknowledge that you may be photographed and you consent to our use of it for these purposes. The video capture of congregants is minimal and will usually be from the back. If you want to be sure that you will not be shown on any video, we recommend sitting near the back on the left side of the sanctuary. Thanks!