RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY
April 20, 2025

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993
Web Site: memluth.org
E-mail: office@memluth.org
717-532-4614

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

Reverend Godfred Effisah
717-532-4614 (church office) or 571-572-0119 (cell)
pastor@memluth.org
Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Children are an active part of Memorial's community of faith! We welcome you to worship each week! Children's bulletins and Quiet Bags (lots of exciting things to do!) are available at the doors coming from the parking lot. Please take one of each as they may help your children bring smiles into our time of worship!

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone.

INTRODUCTION
"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

BELL CHOIR DUET *"Mfurahini, Haleluya"* **Don & Kyle Hilbinger**

WELCOME

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING

PRELUDE *"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"* *- Held*

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 name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

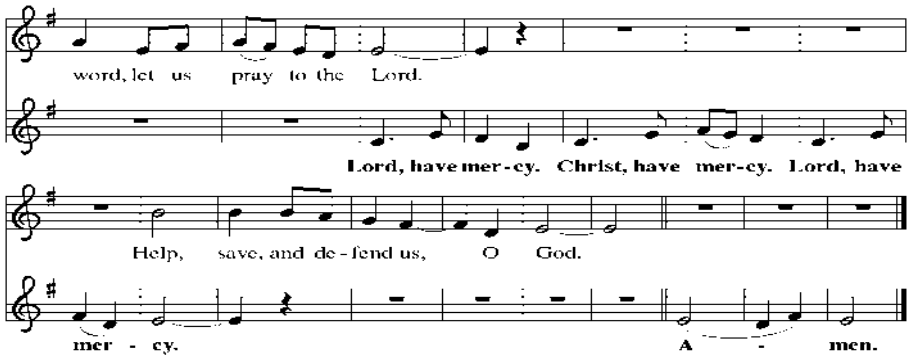
Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"* **ELW 365**

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



HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through 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 10:34-43**

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

34 Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God
shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and
does what is right is acceptable to him. 36 You know the message he
sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is
Lord of all. 37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in
Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38 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. 39 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;
40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 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. 42 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. 43 All the prophets
testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives
forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM **Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24** **READ RESPONSIVELY**

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.
2 **Let Israel now declare,**
"God's mercy endures forever."
14 The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.
15 **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!
16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"
17 **I shall not die, but live,**
and declare the works of the LORD.
18 The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

19 **Open for me the gates of righteousness;**
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.
20 "This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."
21 **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me**
and you have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
23 **By the LORD has this been done;**
it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most
to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first
fruits of those who have died. 21 For since death came through a hu-
man being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a hu-
man being; 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.
23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming
those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he hands
over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler
and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all
his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Alleluia. **Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us keep the feast.** ***Alleluia.*** *(1 Cor. 5:7, 8)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **John 20:1-18**

This morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

[1]Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. [2]So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." [3]Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. [4]The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. [5]He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. [6]Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, [7]and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. [8]Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; [9]for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. [10]Then the disciples returned to their homes. [11]But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; [12]and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. [13]They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." [14]When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. [15]Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." [16]Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). [17]Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" [18]Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"*
ELW 369

NICENE CREED
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION **Church Council Members**

SHARING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

SENIOR CHOIR OFFERTORY *"Sunrise Resurrection"*
- Williams/Martin

The Ushers will collect the offering.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **ELW 884**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Let us pray together.
Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.
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.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

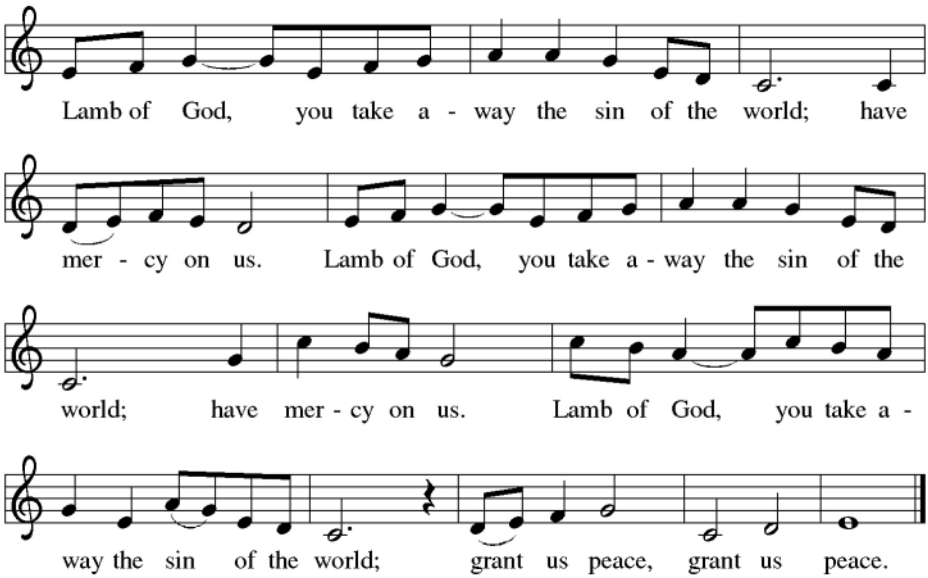
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all 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.

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
Lord remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray.
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.

LAMB OF GOD **page 191**



INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

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.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray together.
Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

SENDING

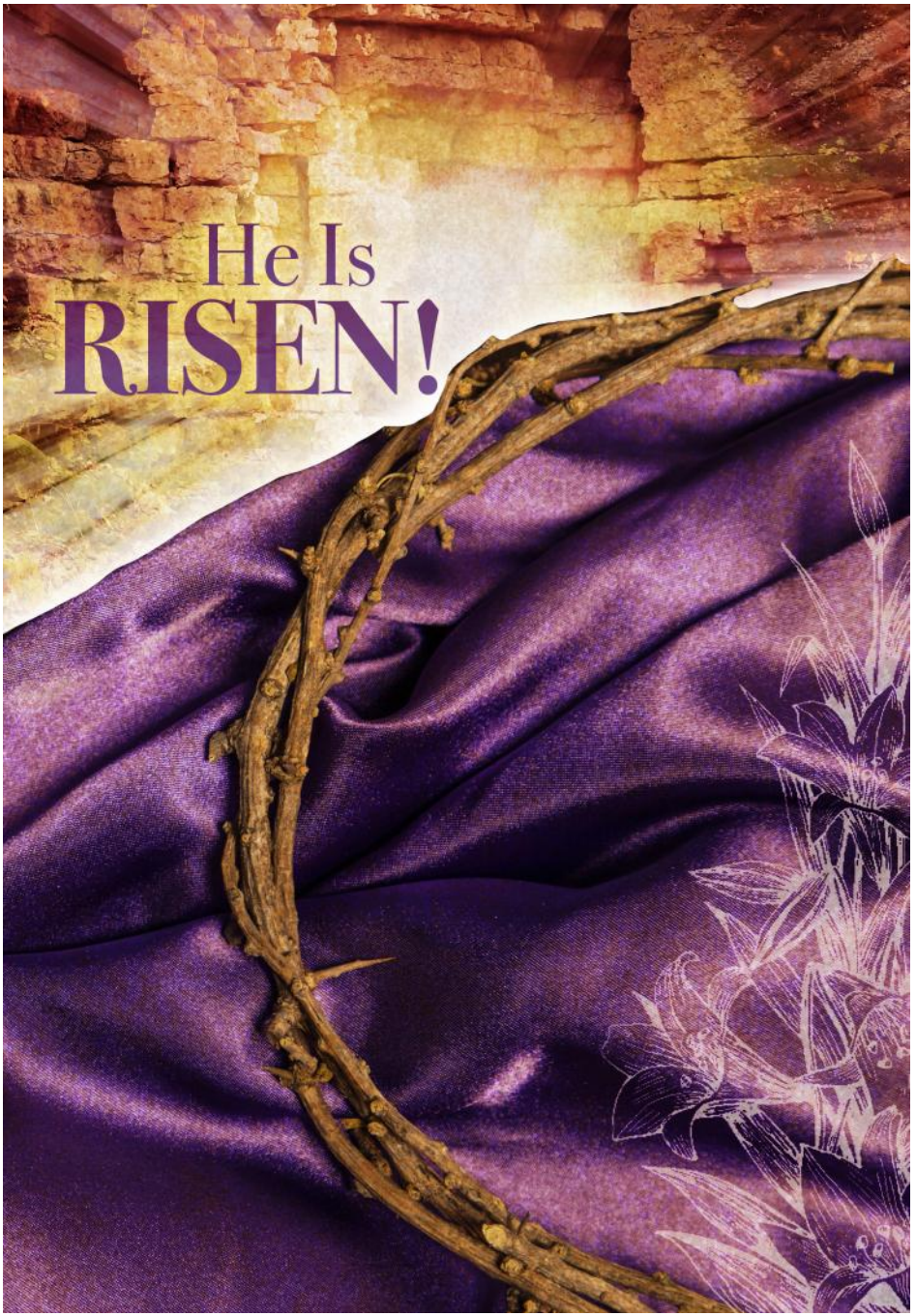
BLESSING
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!"* **ELW 382**

DISMISSAL
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *"For the Strength of the Hills"* *- Stephens*

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004243. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.


He Is
RISEN!

Evelyn Fuller
Bernita Killian
Karen Larson
Doug & Pat Maun
Jeanne Naugle
Dorothy Railing
Trina Ruth
All Caregivers

Pastor
Pastor Godfred Effisah

Organist & Pianist
Nancy Fogelsanger

Senior Choir / Bell Choir
Director
Kathy Kerr

Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper

Preschool Director
Shirley Perry