Faith Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday
April 5th, 2026

Introduction

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

Gathering

Gathering Hymn

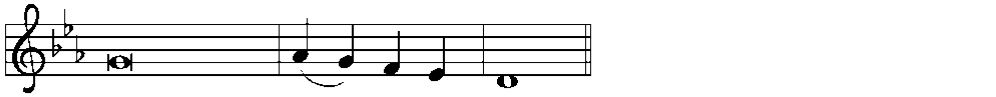
ELW 365 “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Thanksgiving for Baptism

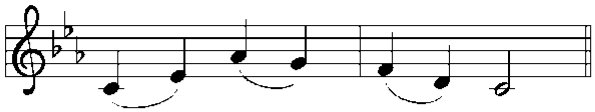
Responses on the screens

Kyrie

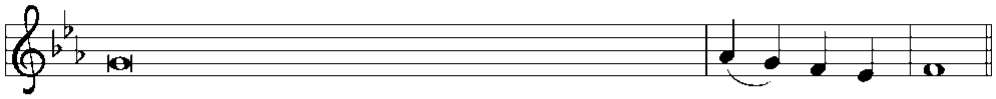
ELW Setting One Kyrie & This is the Feast



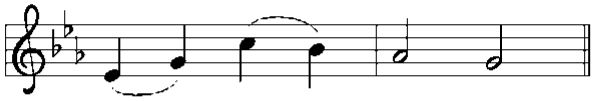
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

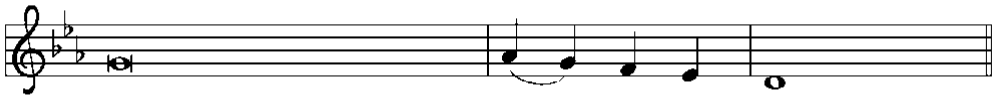


For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

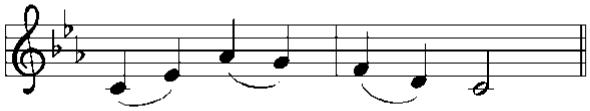


Lord, have mer - cy.

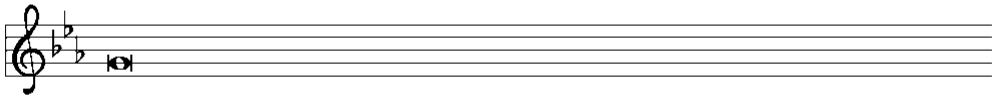
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



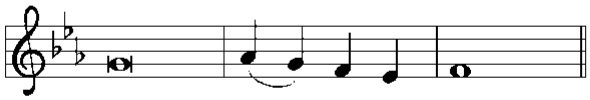
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



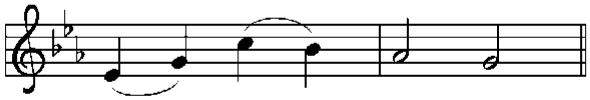
Lord, have mer - cy.



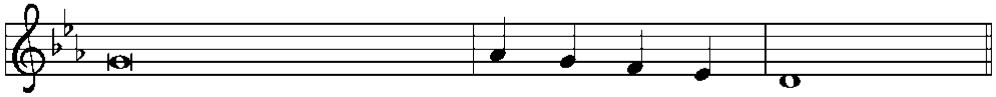
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



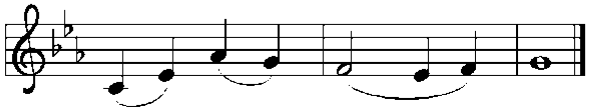
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

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 [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that
God shows no partiality, 35 but in every people anyone who fears him and
practices righteousness 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 *118:1-2, 14-24*

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy en- dures forever.
2 **Let Israel now declare,**
"God's mercy en- dures 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 pun- ished me sorely,

but did not hand me o- ver 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 righ- teous may enter."
21 **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me**
and you have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the build- ers 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.

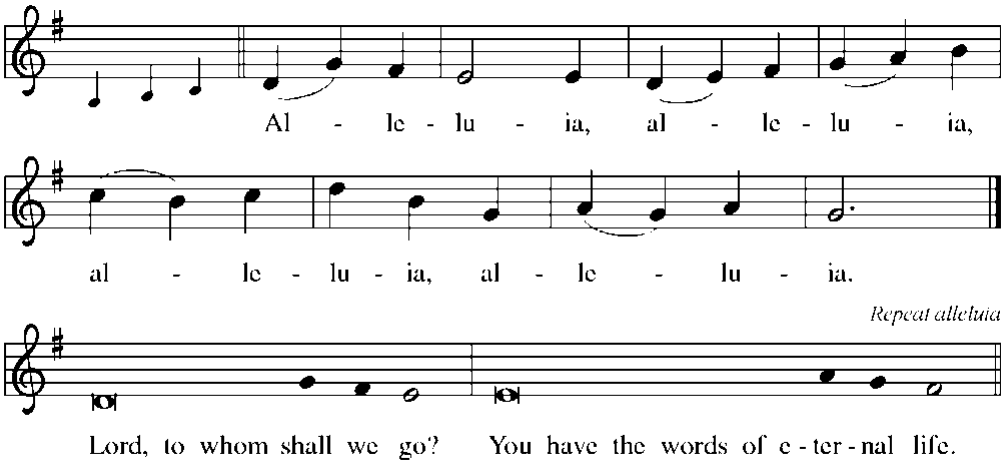
Second Reading *Colossians 3:1-4*

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

1 If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *ELW Setting One*



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 28th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel *Matthew 28:1-10*

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

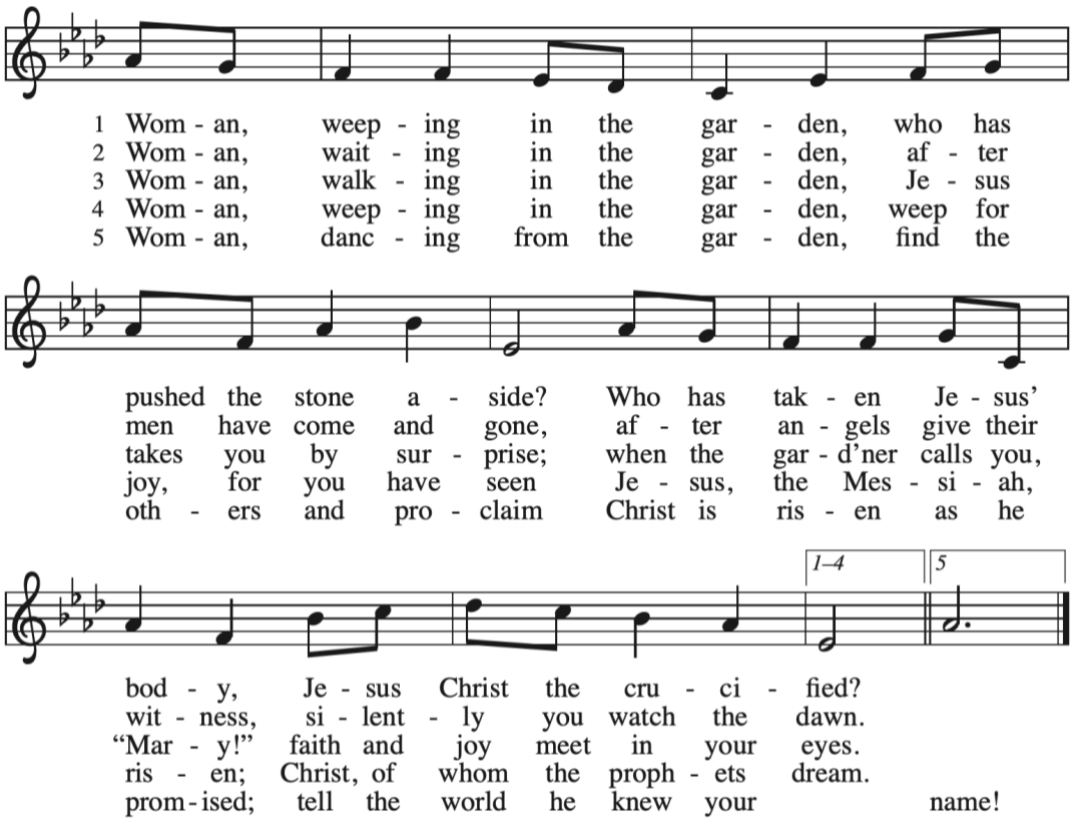
1 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene
and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great
earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled
back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning and his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

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

Sermon & Silent Reflection

Hymn of the Day

ACS 935 "Woman, Weeping in the Garden"



Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Meal

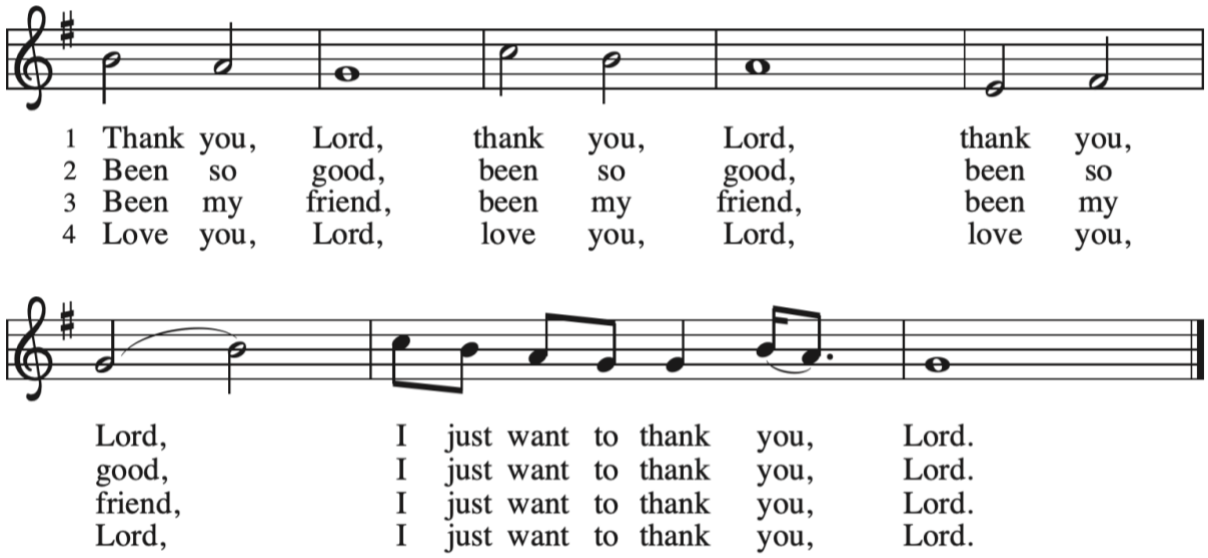
Peace

Offering

"For Jesus, the quality of the gift is not how large it is, but the proportion you give and the heart with which you give it." There are many options for giving including plate giving, text to give (833-686-4752) or through our website.

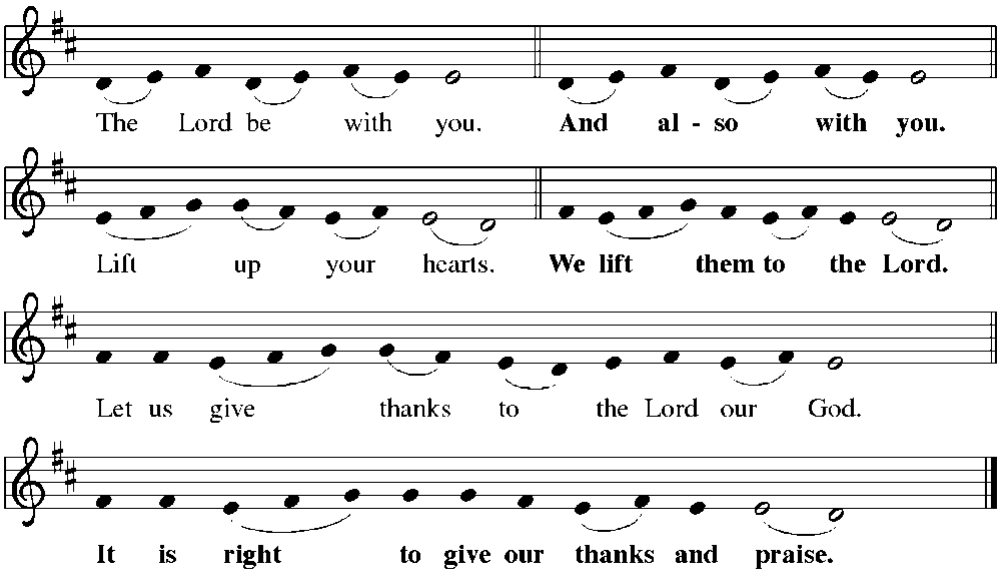
Offertory Hymn

ACS 1092 "Thank you, Lord"

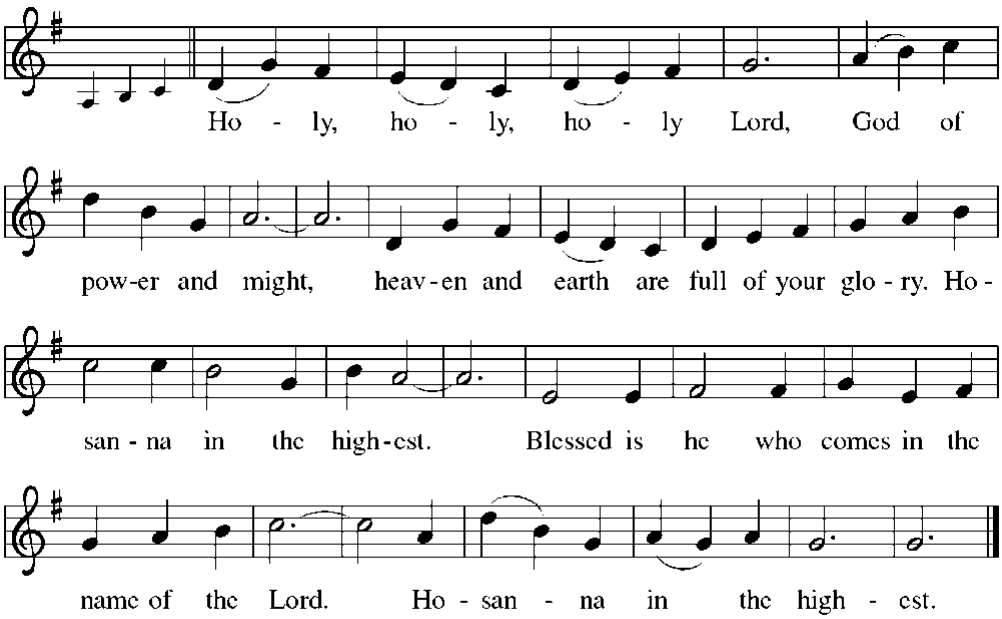


Offering Prayer

Holy Communion



Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

…as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

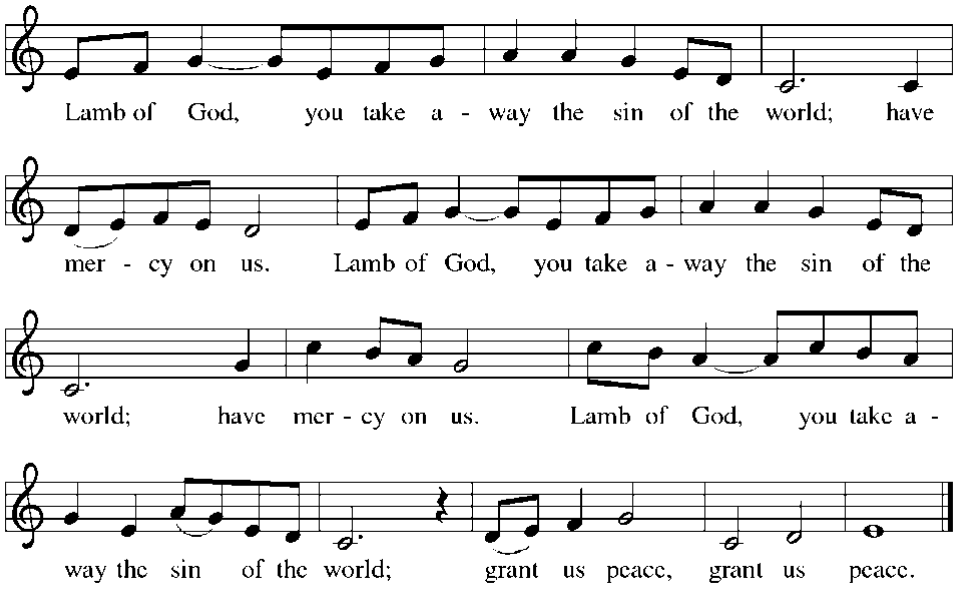
…Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

…burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Lamb of God



Distribution Hymn

ELW 367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

Prayer after Communion

Sending

Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Faith Lutheran Church is a community living in God's love which embraces and welcomes every person as part of God's Beloved Community. We celebrate each person created in God's image as we strive for justice, peace, and racial equity in our community and the wider world. We openly welcome and affirm all persons of every race, age, socioeconomic class, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, marital and family status, background, and experience. We seek to live as a community of God's people that values each person's voice, gifts, and full participation in all areas of the congregation's life and worship. We embrace the work of the Holy Spirit moving in and through us as we care for the earth and all of God's people.

FAITH ACTIVE IN LOVE

Gathered as a community living in God's love we serve all people, care for the earth and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit.

Faith Lutheran Church will be recognized as a community of spiritual growth, a place of acceptance and inclusion, a gateway for environmental stewardship, a creator of partnerships and an advocate for social justice and peace.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP this Easter Sunday includes:

Presiding	*Rev. John C. Norquist*
Organist/ Pianist	*Stephen V. Hibbard*
Reader	*Tom Schoofs*
Communion Assistant	*Tom Schoofs*
Cup Deacons	
Greeter	*Donna Fowler*
Ushers	
Communion Set-up	*Bev Yurske, Jean Benz, Virginia Anderle*
Live Stream	*Tom & Kelly Dennison*

April Mission of the Month: Advocates of Ozaukee County

Easter Lilies

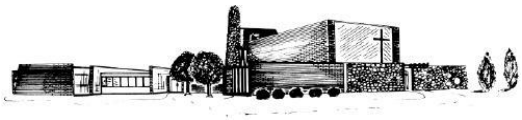
Virginia Anderle *in Memory of Bruce Anderle,* ***LaVerne Gresch*** *in Memory of Jim & Cathy,* ***Ruth Gollnick*** *in Memory of Jim Gollnick,* ***Wayne Krueger*** *in Memory of Lois Krueger,* ***Carol Alexander Coutts*** *in Memory of Jim & Lee Coutts & Don Alexander,* ***Sandy Stelter*** *in Honor of my Four Great Grandchildren,* ***Nancy Hammen*** *in Memory of John Hammen,* ***Sean & Laura Kinnunen*** *in Memory of Rebecca Lederer and Gerald & Lois Scherbert,* ***Barbara Johnson*** *in Memory of Mary Ann,* ***Joe & Dottie Dorr*** *in Memory of Rev. Erik Jelinek,* ***Cindy Ehlers*** *in Memory of my Husband and Parents,* ***Glenn & Bev Yurske*** *in Memory of Ken & Renny Rappold,* ***Alisa & John Norquist*** *in Memory of Cheryl Bostrom,* ***Joyce Caldwell*** *in Memory of Mike Caldwell,* ***Vonna Pitel*** *in Memory of Eldon & Marceda Pitel,* ***Michelle Burton*** *in Memory of Richard & Sonia Burton,* ***Vangie Sherman*** *in Memory of Hal Sherman,* ***Cindy & Phil Dellegrazio*** *in Memory of Michael Dellegrazio*

Strongly Sung Alleluias

In Matthew's telling of the Easter story, Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" are the first to experience the resurrection of Jesus (28:1). Earthquake, descending angel, and convulsing grave-guards all attest to this miraculous feat of God's love defeating death forever. The angelic invitation to the women to behold the bodiless resting place of Jesus is met with evangelistic fervor; the women race off full of "fear and great joy" (v. 8) to tell the others. Their run from the empty tomb, however, is interrupted by the risen Christ. A simple word of greeting from Jesus sends the women to the ground; they "took hold of his feet, and worshiped him" (v. 9).

What did this first Easter-morning worship look like? Did the women recite traditional Jewish prayers? Were they moved to sing? Might this worshipful moment be the time and place the first Easter "alleluia" was uttered? Perhaps they harkened back to Psalm 118 and sang to Jesus, "The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation" (v. 14). At the feet of Jesus, the women found strength as they bore witness to God's liberation and the power of resurrection. This was the Jesus they would share with the other disciples and, by extension, the world. This is the Jesus they would sing out to others in Galilee and beyond. A new day had dawned; Easter had arrived. Alleluia!

The church gathers on this Easter Day to join in the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen. We gather to share in the wonder and joy of Mary and Mary, whose worshipful witness has become our own. We join in the prayers, the confession, the Easter fervor that knows the salvation of our God, our strength and our song. A new day, an Easter Day has come. "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Indeed, let us rejoice, worship, and sing out strong: Alleluia! Alleluia!



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