



EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025

10:30 am

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

PRELUDE “Easter Celebration” *Brass Quintet & Organ*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit

Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

GATHERING HYMN ELW #365 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”



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!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, 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!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; 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!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text. **You are invited to read the bold portions.**



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth,
 our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed
 with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for
 the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty,
 you are the river of life, you are the everlasting
 wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and
 streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.
 Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our
 life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals
 survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites
 escape through the sea, and the Samaritan woman will never
 be thirsty again.

Praise to you for the water of baptism
 and for your Word that saves us in this sacrament.
 Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here
 and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones.
 Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown
 the evil around us.

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus
 Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and
 the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

THIS IS THE FEAST

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

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Wor - thy is Christ, the lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bles - sing, and glo - ry are his.

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

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.

Bles-sing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev - er, A-men. _____

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

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

For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun His reign, Al - le - lu - ia. _____

This is the fea - st of vic-to-ry for our God. _____ 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Alleluias and empty tombs, God of garden plots and good news, it is Easter. It is finally Easter. In a world full of grief and heartache, in a world full of violence and oppression, in a world full of loss and separation, we long for this day because Easter sings a different song. Easter sings a song of hope. Easter sings a song of new life. Easter sings a song of love that makes you want to jump out of your chair and run barefoot to the tomb. Easter smells of fresh flowers and baked bread. It sounds like trumpets

and laughter. Yes, Easter sings a different song. So in a world full of grief, help us to cling to Easter's hope. In a world full of grief, help us hear this story of good news. In a world full of grief, we're ready to jump out of our chairs and run barefoot to the tomb. With hope we pray, with hope we listen, **amen.**

Please
be seated

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All 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.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

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 human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human 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
comfort-

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

Leader: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. *(to Refrain)*

REFRAIN: ALL



GOSPEL

Luke 24:1-12

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.Please be
Seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

#672 WOV “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”



1 Christ is	ris - en!	Shout ho - san-na!	Cel - e - brate this day of days!
2 Christ is	ris - en!	Raise your spir-its	from the cav - erns of de - spair.
3 Christ is	ris - en!	Earth and heav-en	nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won-der: all cre-a - tion is a - mazed.
Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all sur-round-ing, see, a spread-ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res-ur - rec - tion. Not a ser - vant, but a friend,
Tell its grim, de-mon-ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal-ing leaves of grace a-bound-ing bring a taste of love un - known.
Je - sus is our strong com-pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev-er end.
God the first and last is with us. Sing ho-san - na, ev-'ry - one!

Please
stand
as you
are
com-
fortable
in body
or spir-
it.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In the dark before dawn,
we believe that God is alive.
In the midst of our grief,
we believe the Spirit is at work.
In the chaos of our broken world,
we believe that love is on the loose.
For no stone could keep God at bay,
and no violence could keep God's love from us.
So today we sing,
Alleluia!
For somewhere in between our belief and doubt,
hope lives.
Christ has died,
and Christ has also risen.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving, especially... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Touch That Soothes and Heals" *Celebration Choir*

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

Please be seated.
Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



1. Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might



2. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho-san - na in the high-est



3. Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord

THE 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.

All are welcome to come and receive Holy Communion. Jesus welcomed everyone to the table and so do we. The ushers will dismiss you down the center aisle. You will receive a piece of bread and either eat it and drink from the common cup at the center of the aisle or dip it into the cup on your right or left. There is also a gluten free wafer available and white grape juice. If you or a child do not want to receive communion, please cross your hands over your chest.

Please be
seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Lamb of God”

Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

Have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

Have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

#374 *ELW* “Day of Arising”

#935 *ACS* “Woman, Weeping in the Garden”

#379 *ELW* “Now the Green Blade Rises”

Please
stand as
you are
comfortable
in body or
spirit.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER & BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!


Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Now may the truth of the empty tomb—
the astonishing reality of Jesus’ resurrection—
keep you fearless and sure
that you will see the Resurrected One
again and again in this life.
May the power of God’s endless love
surround you and guide you,
this day and always.

**Benedic-
tion:** *God
blesses us and
sends us in
mission to the
world.*

SENDING HYMN

#860 *ELW* "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"
(Repeat vs. 1 at end)



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,

Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
 When I was in trou - ble,

sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

SENDING

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

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church



Children belong in worship!

Worship kits and a nursery space is available. God rejoices in the joyful noise of children and so do we!



God calls us to welcome everyone!

Messiah seeks to be a welcoming community and to share the love of God with our neighbors. If you are new, please introduce yourself to our pastors.



Worship should be accessible!

Hearing devices (and T-Coil) and large print bulletins are available. We invite you to sit or stand as you are comfortable. All gender and family restroom facilities are available on the first level, please see signs in the Narthex.



All are welcome at Jesus' table!

During communion grape juice and gluten-free options are available. Those not wishing to commune may come forward for a blessing. Those not able to come forward may receive communion in their pew, please notify the usher.



God calls us to pray!

Private prayer requests may be made by writing them on the back of the Welcome Card. If you would like to be added to the prayer list or receive a pastoral care visit, please contact the church office.

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Preacher:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Liturgist:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Assisting Minister:	Marina Shinkarenko
Reader:	Mark Paulsen
Ushers:	Jean Reynolds
Greeters:	Marcia Heron, Marina Shinkarenko
Communion Assistants:	Gayle Mack, Bronce Reece, Marina Shinkarenko
Songleader:	Sara Parks
Organist:	Kathy Strazzinski
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Jason Parks & Ross Larson
Audio Technician:	Traci Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Lesley Williams
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	Jane Brow
Brass Quintet with Timpani:	Jake Schmeltzer-Trumpet, Randy Veale-Trumpet, Jon Schertz-Horn, Gordon Erickson-Trombone, Tom Bronken-Tuba, Seth Milano-Timpani

Acknowledgements:

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