

# EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026

10:30 am

*Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## 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!

## PRELUDE

"Lift High the Cross" *Brass Quintet & Organ*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit*

## 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!

## CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

*Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit*

Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember that the world did its worst to God.

The world battered and bruised,  
 betrayed and abandoned,  
 crucified and buried our living God.

And despite it all, Jesus still chose to return.

Jesus rose again and immediately went to work spreading God's love to the very people who had hurt him. So hear me when I say, there is nothing you can do that could keep God's love at bay.

With that good news mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us.

Friends, let us pray:

**Gracious God,**

**we want to be Easter people.**

**We want to shout your good news from the rooftop.**

**We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.**

**We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid,"  
 but we are afraid.**

**And we don't know where to look.**

**And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.**

**So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.**

**We are best intentions and best laid plans.**

**We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."**

**We are on our way, but we are not there yet.**

**Show us how to embody your good news in this world.**

**Show us how to be your Easter people.**

**With hope for tomorrow, we pray, Amen.**

Family of faith,  
 even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God.  
 Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay.  
 So join me in this good news declaration:  
**Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed.**  
**This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God.**  
**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.**

**KYRIE**

**Leader:** In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. *(to Refrain)*

**REFRAIN: ALL:**

Ky-ri-e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer -  
 - cy up - on us.  
 Chri - ste e - lei - son. Christ, have mer -  
 - cy up - on us.

**Leader:** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. *(to Refrain)*

**Leader:** 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. *(to Refrain)*

**Leader:** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. *(to Refrain)*

**Leader:** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**ALL:**

A - men, A - - - - - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy One, all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story. All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting. All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you. So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here. Speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

Acts 10:34-43

Please  
be  
seated

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>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; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>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.**

**SECOND READING**

Colossians 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup> If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> 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**

“Alleluia”

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit

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

**REFRAIN: ALL**

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 28:1-10

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> 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.” <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> 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.**


Please be seated

**SERMON**


**HYMN OF THE DAY**

#364 “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”


M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,  
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
 3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear.



*m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.*  
 Re - jice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.



*A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,*  
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



*m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.*  
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 and in its con - quest his might did show.  
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."


*Refrain*




*Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.*  
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



*Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.*  
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



*Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;*  
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



*ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.*  
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.  
Even the battle with sin is won."  
*Refrain*

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.  
Alleluia, to him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.  
*Refrain*

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

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain, especially... Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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.**

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Please be seated.

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" *Celebration Choir*

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

### 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.**

### 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:

*Sing each line twice*



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 \_\_\_\_\_

In the night in which he was betrayed...  
...And we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

...all glory and honor is yours, almighty God,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**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.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

“Lamb of God”

Please  
be  
seated.



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. \_\_\_\_\_

Grant \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ peace. \_\_\_\_\_

- #826 *ELW* "Thine the Amen"
- #935 *ACS* "Woman, Weeping in the Garden"
- #379 *ELW* "Now the Green Blade Rises"

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER & BLESSING**

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

**BENEDICTION**

**Benediction:** *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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. Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

"Low in the Grave He Lay"



1 Low in the grave he lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior,  
 2 Vain - ly they watch his bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior;  
 3 Death can - not keep its prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior;



wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my Lord.  
 vain - ly they seal the dead, Je - sus my Lord.  
 he tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my Lord.

*Refrain*

Up from the grave he a - rose, with a might-y tri-umph o'er his foes;



he a - rose a vic - tor o - ver death's do - main, and he lives for - ev - er, with his



saints to reign. He a - rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

## SENDING

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. 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.

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## Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 W. Magnetic St., Marquette Michigan

906.225.1119 — [www.messiahlutheranmq.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmq.org)

Preacher:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Assisting Minister:	Mike Hill
Reader:	Jean Groos
Ushers:	Dave & Jill Luoma
Greeters:	Gayle Van Osdol
Communion Assistants:	Mike Hill, Sandy Lindberg, Bronce Reece, Gayle Van Osdol
Songleader:	Sara Parks
Organist:	Kathy Strazzinski
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Tom Bronken, Ross Larson
Audio Technician:	Traci Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Lesley Williams
Nursery:	Sarah Bleckiner
Flower Delivery:	Jill Luoma
Brass Quintet with Timpani:	Jake Schmeltzer-Trumpet, Kaitlyn Levine-Trumpet, Jon Schertz-Horn, Gordon Erickson-Trombone, Tom Bronken-Tuba, Seth Milano-Timpani

### Acknowledgements:

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