



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, April 12, 2026 – 8:30 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
William Prann, Director of Christian Education
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Series A)

**Divine Service, Setting 4
(Page 203)**

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

On this Second Sunday of Easter, the risen Christ meets His fearful disciples with peace, sends them with His forgiving Word, and strengthens them for bold witness in a world that resists His Name. In Acts 5, the apostles stand before hostile authorities, confessing, “We must obey God rather than men,” and astonishingly rejoice when they suffer for Christ. Peter’s Epistle reminds us that such trials refine our faith like gold tested by fire, filling believers with a joy that is “inexpressible and filled with glory.” Today we gather as those who have tasted that the Lord is good, praying that the same resurrection courage and joy that filled the apostles would also fill us as we speak Christ’s Name in our lives and callings.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

We must obey God rather than man – Acts 5:29

WELCOME

✠PREPARATION ✠

482 THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son

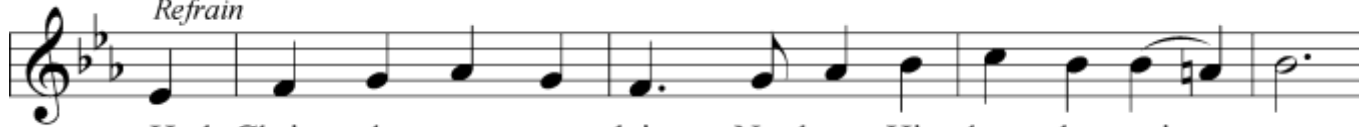


sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,



Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934

Tune: Davids Psalmen, 1684, Amsterdam

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Michael Ray Eslit

The candidate, sponsors, and family gather with the pastor at the font.

When candidate is unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19) In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” (Mark 16:16a) And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.” (1 Peter 3:21)

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, (1 John 2:2) that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?

R Michael Ray Eslit

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Michael Ray Eslit, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✝ forehead and upon your ✝ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all (1 Peter 3:20). You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism (Ex. 15:4; 1 Cor. 10:2). Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Michael Ray Eslit according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

The pastor addresses the sponsors.

P Is it your intention to serve Michael Ray Eslit as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C **Amen.**

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, *“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”* And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them (Mark 10:13-16).

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P We pray the Lord's Prayer together.

C 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.

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even † forevermore.

C Amen.

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate and asks the following questions:

P Michael Ray Eslit, do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Michael Ray Eslit, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

P Michael Ray Eslit, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

C **Amen.**

P The white garment that you wear today symbolizes that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness (Is. 61:10; Rev. 7:13, 14; 19:13; 22:14) that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4).

P The burning light(s) show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world (John 8:12). Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9) in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir (Romans 8:17) with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9).

C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Michael Ray Eslit the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom (Romans 8:17). We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C **Amen.**

All return to their places.

EXHORTATION

LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 203

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

LSB 203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 105:1-5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2-3

P Like newborn infants,

C long for the pure spiritual milk,

P that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C make known his deeds among the peoples!

P Sing to him, sing praises to him;

C tell of all his wondrous works!

P Glory in his holy name;

C let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

P Seek the LORD and his strength;

C seek his presence continually!

P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

C his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

P He remembers his covenant forever,

C the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Like newborn infants,

C long for the pure spiritual milk,

P that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have given Your Church a living hope and the courage to confess His saving Name. As You strengthened the apostles to obey You rather than men and to rejoice even in suffering, so grant us steadfast hearts, purified faith, and bold lips to speak Christ's peace in our lives and callings; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST READING*Acts 5:29-42*

(The apostles proclaim the Good News about Jesus, the Christ.)

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered.

³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The following hymn is inspired by Psalm 148, the appointed psalm for the day.

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, Lift
 2 O rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O
 3 O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make
 4 Dear moth - er earth, who day by day Un -



up your voice with us and sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
 clouds that ride the winds a - loft: Oh, praise Him!
 mu - sic for your Lord to hear. Oh, praise Him!
 folds rich bless - ings on our way, Oh, praise Him!



al - le - lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en
 Al - le - lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re -
 Al - le - lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and
 Al - le - lu - ia! The fruits and flow'rs that ver - dant



beam And sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam:
 joice, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice.
 bright, Pro - vid - ing us with warmth and light,
 grow, Let them His praise a - bun - dant show.

Refrain



Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 O ev'ryone of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!
All you who pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and lay on Him your care.

6 And you, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our final breath,
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!
You lead to heav'n the child of God,
Where Christ our Lord the way has trod.

△7 Let all things their Creator bless
And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; Tr. William H. Draper, 1855–1933, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

Please Be Seated

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3-9

(We are born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ.)

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 205



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

(Jesus appears to His disciples gathered behind locked doors.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, *“Peace be with you.”* ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, *“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”* ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, *“Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”*

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, *“Peace be with you.”* ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, *“Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”* ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, *“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

LAMB’S MESSAGE

470 O SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav' n - ly
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
 3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
 4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
 wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
 speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
 came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
 That they had seen the risen Lord,
 He doubted the disciples' word.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
 And look upon My hands, My feet;
 Not faithless but believing be."
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
 He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen
 And yet whose faith has constant been,
 For they eternal life shall win.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
 Be laud and jubilee and praise:
 To God your hearts and voices raise.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

VOTUM

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer**
Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: 1 Peter 1:3–4 – “He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

RECEIVE INTO MEMBERSHIP

Shelby Swanson

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord’s Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

R *I do.*

P Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

R *I will, with the help of God.*

P Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are [a member/members] of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing this Your daughter to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling her both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit she may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P The grace of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Risen Lord Jesus, You came to Your fearful disciples and spoke peace. Strengthen Your Church in that same peace today, that like the apostles we may obey God rather than men and boldly confess Your saving Name.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Lord of the Church, give courage and faithfulness to all pastors, teachers, missionaries, and church workers. As the apostles rejoiced to suffer for the Name, grant that all who proclaim Your Word may do so with joy, clarity, and steadfastness.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P God of mercy, bless the homes of Your people. Let forgiveness reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Strengthen those who live alone with the comfort of Your presence and the fellowship of Your Church.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Lord of the nations, You added believers to the Church even in the midst of hostility. Guide the rulers of the world, curb wickedness, and bring all peoples to honor Your Son, the risen Christ.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Compassionate Father, as Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, bring comfort, healing, and hope to all who suffer in body or spirit, especially [names]. Grant Your Easter joy also to those who weep, especially [names], that they may look with confidence to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You have given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Keep us steadfast in trials, patient in suffering, and joyful in witness, that our faith—tested by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Christ.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Risen Lord Jesus, You spoke peace to Your disciples and gave them courage to confess Your Name. Strengthen us as we go, that we may trust Your promises, rejoice in Your resurrection, and boldly witness to Your saving love; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

GREET ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “The Lord be with you,” “Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord be with you”.

CLOSING SONG

480 HE'S RISEN, HE'S RISEN



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
△ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.
For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.
With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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