EASTER SUNRISE
Resurrection Joy
April 5, 2026
6:30am

AS WE GATHER
The old Sabbath is past. The first day of the week has become the eighth day, the eternal day, the first day of the promised resurrection of the new heavens and earth. The angel knows why we are here. "You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen" (Mark 16:6). His body was in the tomb of death no longer. He is now glorified, body and soul. Now when He says, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20), we know what He means. So we come here "very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen" (Mark 16:2) not looking for a closed entrance to a tomb but for the risen Lord speaking in His Word and touching us with forgiveness and peace "in the breaking of the bread" (Luke 24:35), His body and blood given and shed for us Christians to eat and to drink. We gather on Easter in excited yet sometimes silent joy.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

BELLS *"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"* arr. Sondra K. Tucker

WELCOME

VERSE
Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. **Hebrews 13:20-21**

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠
(Please rise and face the entrance to the sanctuary)

CALL TO WORSHIP
Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People: He is Risen indeed!
All: Alleluia! Amen!
Pastor: "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"
People: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
Pastor: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Let us praise our Risen Lord Jesus Christ!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #463

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia"

Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

2 continued

Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: who made heaven and earth.
Pastor: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.
People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Pastor: We are illumined by the brightness of His rising.
People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Pastor: Death no more has dominion over us.
People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism you declared us to be your children and gathered us into your one, holy church, in which you daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father. Holy and gracious God,

People: I confess that I have sinned against you. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of the risen Jesus Christ, I ask you to forgive me all my sins. Deliver me from my guilt and death and raise me up to forgiveness and life that my heart may finally be at peace. Amen.
Pastor: By the mercy of God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ and forgiven. 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.
People: Amen.
Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE LSB p. 155

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
Refrain

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before you in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 14:10–15:1* (The Israelites cross the Red Sea.) 10 When Pharaoh drew near, the
people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the
Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared
greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD.
11 They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in
Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness?
What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Is
not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that
we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better
for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."
13 And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and
see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you
today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall
never see again. 14 The LORD will fight for you, and you have
only to be silent."15 The LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry
to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. 16 Lift up your
staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it,
that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry
ground. 17 And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so

5 continued

that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over
Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen.
18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I
have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his
horsemen." 19 Then the angel of God who was going before
the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the
pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind
them, 20 coming between the host of Egypt and the host of
Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit
up the night without one coming near the other all night.
21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and
the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night
and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.
22 And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on
dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right
hand and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued and went in
after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his
chariots, and his horsemen. 24 And in the morning watch
the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the
Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic,
25 clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily.
And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for
the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians." 26 Then the
LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that
the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their
chariots, and upon their horsemen." 27 So Moses stretched
out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal
course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians
fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of
the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and
the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed
them into the sea, not one of them remained. 29 But the
people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the
waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their

6 continued

left. [30] Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of
the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the
seashore. [31] Israel saw the great power that the LORD used
against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and
they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then
Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD,
saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed
gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the
sea.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:1–11* (Christ died, was buried, and rose again.) Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, [2] and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. [3] For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, [4] that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, [5] and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. [6] Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. [7] Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. [8] Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. [9] For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. [10] But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. [11] Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR *"Easter Song"*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:1–18* (Mary Magdalene meets the risen Lord.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away 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] So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. [4] Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. [5] And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. [6] Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, [7] and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. [8] Then the other disciple, who had 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 went back to their homes. [11] But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. [12] And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one 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] Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it

8 continued

was Jesus. [15]Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" 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 Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). [17] Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for 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 that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN #467 "Awake, My Heart, With Gladness"

Awake, my heart, with gladness, See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness, Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light Our spirit wings its flight.

The foe in triumph shouted When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed, His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free; In glorious victory
He who is strong to save Has triumphed o'er the grave.

This is a sight that gladdens--What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake, No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son In love for me has won.

Now hell, its prince, the devil, Of all their pow'r are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil, And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all its might Cannot my soul affright;
It is a pow'rless form, Howe'er it rave and storm.

9 continued

The world against me rages, Its fury I disdain;
Though bitter war it wages, Its work is all in vain.
My heart from care is free, No trouble troubles me.
Misfortune now is play, And night is bright as day.

SERMON "Christ Is Risen!" John 20:1-18

(Rise)

HYMN #467 "Awake, My Heart, With Gladness"

Now I will cling forever To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never, Whate'er He passes through.
He rends death's iron chain; He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's grim thrall; I follow Him through all.

He brings me to the portal That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal Is found in script of gold:
"Who there My cross has shared Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died Shall here be glorified."

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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.
I 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. Amen.
(Be seated)

CHOIR *"The Strife Is Over"*

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O God and Father who raised Jesus from the dead, you have crowned Him with glory and honor. All things, even death, lie under His pierced feet. Expand His dominion over every aspect of our lives, and also to the ends of the earth, that all may see the fullness of your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Lord, mighty God, you have established the Church as the instrument of your saving purpose and endowed us with the gift of your Word and Sacrament. Embolden us with the Holy Spirit to be renewed in witness, sustained in trial and refreshed through the Means of Grace. Bless those who bring your gifts and preach your Word. Give us willing ears to hear and willing hearts to keep this Easter faith. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, lead your people in your steadfast love, and guide them in strength to your holy abode. Sanctify our homes. Be the companion of those who live alone. Make our households places where your wisdom, love and grace are abound. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Lord, your power is over all things. Even death has become your footstool. Reign over the might of man, and preserve us against all threats. Give wisdom to our president, our governor, all elected and appointed public servants, and all who judge or enforce the rule of law. Deliver us from pride, from

the deceptions of self-sufficiency and from the use of technology without conscience or purpose. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Merciful God, have mercy on the sick and those in any need. Let the dawning light of the new creation in Christ sustain them in faith. In accord with your will, grant them renewed health — a foretaste of their eternal healing in Him. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father, you have offered the Passover Lamb, your Son, Jesus Christ, to cleanse away the leaven of sin. Endow us with repentant hearts to receive His body and blood in faith and strengthen us to live in newness of life. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, heavenly Father, you have not let your Holy One see corruption, but have raised Him in triumph from the dead, never to die again. Therefore, our hearts are glad and we rejoice, for our flesh also dwells secure. Since you have set Him at your right hand, lead us to set His resurrection before us at all times, that His path of life and the fullness of joy in His presence may be known to us, until we come also to the eternal pleasures at His right hand, forevermore; for you, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise you on this day for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS LSB p. 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB p. 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #461 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

14 continued

Choir Only *He lives to silence all my fears;*
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest and King.

Choir Only *He lives and grants me daily breath;*
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives;
I know that my Redeemer lives!

HYMN #457 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

15 continued

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, by this Holy Communion, you have given us a foretaste of your eternal kingdom, where death will have been defeated, where there will be no more crying or pain or mourning, and where all the faithful will be resurrected in Christ. For this glimpse of what you have in store for all creation, we give you thanks and praise. We ask that by your Holy Spirit, our lives would show forth glimpses of your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN #482 "This Joyful Eastertide"

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow:

Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,

Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!

Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: **Refrain**

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number:
Refrain

Preacher	Pastor Michael Schumacher
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Organist	Deaconess Carole King

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.