

**MOUNT ZION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 8:45am
Divine Service 10am**

MEMBER: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION (CLC)
Walter V. Schaller, Pastor
www.mtzionlutheran.info

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

April 14, 2017

PREPARATION PSALMS (Hymnal Pages): 34 (131), 110 (146), 118 (148).

PREPARATION PRAYER: O Lord God, our Redeemer and Comforter—on this day that we celebrate the resurrection of Your dear Son, Jesus, we come into Your presence with great joy! We thank You for the precious promises of forgiveness and life everlasting that flow from the atoning work of Your Son. We pray that Your Spirit might open our hearts and minds to Your divine instruction, so that we might grow in grace and in the knowledge of Your truths, for then we will be better able to serve You with faithfulness. It is in the name of our risen Savior that we pray. Amen.

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EARLY EASTER MORNING... according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

THE OPENING -- (Congregation Standing)

Pastor: The Lord is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

P: Remember how He told you that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise.

C: The Lord is risen!

P: He is risen indeed!

C: Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN: 731(Worship Supplement) Today in Triumph Christ Arose!

RESPONSORY: He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord (with TLH 198)

P: Christ being raised from the dead, dies no more:

C: Death has no more dominion over Him.

P: In that He lives, He lives unto God:

C: Christ was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification.

PRAYER (Pastor and Congregation)

LORD JESUS, who on this day conquered death and rose from the grave, help us to daily die to sin and to rise to new life in You. May we never again think or act as though You were dead. Let us more and more come to know You as a living Lord, Who has promised to those who believe: “Because I live, you will live also.”

LORD, help us to remember that we are praying to the Conqueror of death, that we may no longer be afraid nor be dismayed by the world’s problems or threats, since You have overcome the world.

LORD JESUS, in Your strong name we ask for Your living presence and Your victorious power; and in Your name we pray...Our Father, who art in heaven;

P: Truly You are our Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who, on the day of His resurrection, declared His ascension to “My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.”

ALL: Hallowed be Thy name;

P: Enable us to honor You with a faithful and bold witness to our risen Lord, and a new life worthy of His Gospel.

ALL: Thy kingdom come;

P: Keep us under Your good and gracious rule through that Spirit by which we live before You now and shall live forever.

ALL: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

P: O Father, help us to submit our lives to Your gracious will, even as Jesus put His life into Your hands.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread;

P: Free us from exaggerated concern and anxiety for our physical welfare, knowing that You are the Provider of all our needs.

ALL: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

P: Move us to be gracious and forgiving to those who have hurt us, even as You, for Christ’s sake, have forgiven us, certifying our justification by His resurrection.

ALL: And lead us not into temptation;

P: From the leaven within and the temptations around us, deliver and keep us, good Lord.

ALL: But deliver us from evil;

P: Fulfill Your promises to preserve us from all evil, and keep us from despair in the midst of all trouble.

ALL: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen, Amen, that is, yes, yes, it shall be so!

HYMN 200:1-2

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

AN EASTER COLLECT

THE BENEDICTION.....“Amen, Amen, Amen”

HYMN 200:7-8

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

Silent Prayer

Daily Bible readings for home devotions; April 17-22, '17

Mon Job 19:23-27 Dear Job: God has done as you requested, inscribing your words on tombstones, hearts, and minds so they last forever. As for Jesus, He shall stand at last on the earth. As for others like yourself, though our flesh decays in the grave, in our glorified bodies we shall see God—indeed, with our very own eyes. We can hardly wait!

Tues Luke 24:1-12 Discard the embalming spices; no corpse available; Jesus gone as He had predicted; run back to town; tell somebody; silly talk(?); Peter's early morning run to the cemetery for a good, long look into the empty tomb. Who knows what else happened ? ? ?

Wed Acts 13:26-39 Someone who had never seen Jesus on this side of the grave clarifies the mystery: “*God raised Him from the dead...God has fulfilled the promise which was made to the fathers...in that He has raised up Jesus—just as He said in Psalm 2, Isaiah 55, and Psalm 16.*” [You didn’t suppose David was speaking of himself, did you (36-37)?] Jesus resurrected means that sins are forgiven (38-39). Happy Easter!

Thurs Psalm 16:8-11 Folks who thought David was speaking of **himself** didn’t listen clearly, for David’s corpse did decay in the grave, while God’s Holy One escaped decay. David was referring to the resurrection of the **Christ**—asserting that **His** soul would not be left in Hades, and that **His** flesh would not see corruption—as Peter clarified in Acts 2:25-31. This clarification is crucial to Easter being a “happy” Easter.

Fri Luke 24:13-25 Evidence accumulated: Jesus was fully functional on Easter evening as He joined two novice disciples, conversed with them, and clarified the Easter Scriptures (13-27). After their eyes had been opened and Jesus left for His next appointment, these fellows were too excited to keep the good news to themselves. Happy Easter!

Sat Acts 10:34-43 Peter’s sermon progressed from a soft introduction and stinger (34-39) to the main point—that *God raised Him up on the third day, and showed Him openly ... to witnesses ... who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead....* Now, what does it all mean? It means that *Jesus was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead... and whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.* That ought to be good news to anyone concerned about his sins and how to escape falling under God’s judgment. Happy Easter, everyone!

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Easter Sunday
April 14, 2017

AN EASTER CONFESION OF FAITH

ALL

I believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, Lord of lords and Savior of our fallen world. I believe that He is the Word made flesh, Who came to earth to redeem all sinners. He was born under the Law, to fulfill all of God's commandments on my behalf. He was crucified at the hands of sinful men, and endured all the punishment that I and all sinners deserved, fully satisfying the justice of God. He died and was buried.

I believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead, as the prophets foretold and as He himself promised. Proved by the inspired Scriptures and by many eyewitnesses, Jesus' resurrection shows that He is God's Son, that His mission of salvation is complete, and that He has triumphed over death, our last great enemy.

With this victory, Christ has become our Forerunner, the first-fruits of all who sleep in Him. Because He rose, I and all who trust in His redeeming work shall rise on the Last Day. Because He lives, I too shall live. For He has promised me: "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." Amen.

THE SERMON

MARK 16:1- 8

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.² Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.³ And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?"⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large.⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.⁷ But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."⁸ So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

THE FRUIT AND POWER OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

- from Martin Luther's Church Postil (published sermon collection) @1525

HYMN 188

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

THE OFFERINGS GATHERED

THE OFFERING PRAYER

P: The Lord is risen from the grave. Hallelujah!

C: Who hung for us upon the tree. Hallelujah!

P: This is the day which the Lord has made. Hallelujah!

C: We will rejoice and be glad in it. Hallelujah!

P: The Lord is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened Death's prison, the Incarnate Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song,
And, earth, sea, and mountain, the paean prolong.**

CONFESION OF SINS:

Adapted from the 5th Petition & the 2nd Article

P: Let us confess our sins before the Lord God. With what such words does Jesus teach us to pray in the Lord's Prayer?

C: Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P: What does this mean?

C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or deny our prayer because of them. We are not worthy of things for which we are asking, neither have we deserved them.

However, we ask that our Father would by His grace give us what we ask; even though we sin often every day and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. We, too, will from our hearts gladly forgive and do good to all those who sin against us.

**The Foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.**

P: I therefore ask each of you, do you believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?

C: I do so believe. I believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

**But short was their triumph, the Savior arose,
And Death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes;
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high.
He lives, yea, He lives, and will nevermore die.**

P: Do promise to amend your sinful life?

C: Yes, with the help of God, that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

P: Be it unto you as you believe. And now, according to the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, and in His place, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Rejoice in our living God!

Oh, where is thy sting, Death? We fear thee no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.

ISAIAH 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.⁷ On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.⁹ In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

HYMN 193:1

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”

Christ the Lord is risen today, Sons of men and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heavens, and, earth, reply.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

MATTHEW 27:1-10

HYMN 193:2-3

“Love’s Redeeming Work is Done”

Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo, He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened Paradise.

THE EPISTLE LESSON.....FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 15 AND JOB 19

P: If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen.

C: I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;

P: And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

C: And after my skin is destroyed, this I know,

P: Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

C: In my flesh I shall see God,

P: If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

C: Whom I shall see for myself,

P: But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
C: And my eyes shall behold God, and not another.

P: For since by man came death,

C: By Man also came the resurrection of the dead.

P: For as in Adam all die,

C: Even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

P: But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits,

C: Afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

P: Hallelujah! Christ has risen, as He said!

C: He has risen from the dead. Hallelujah!

P: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Christ has destroyed death. Hallelujah!

C: And has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Hallelujah!

P: Hallelujah! C: Praise the LORD!

HYMN 193:4-6

“Lives Again Our Glorious King”

Lives again our glorious King; Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O Grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led, Following our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Praise to Thee by both be given!
Thee we greet triumphant now:Hail, the Resurrection Thou!

