

April 16, 2023



... he has given us a new birth
into a
LIVING HOPE
through the
RESURRECTION
of **JESUS CHRIST**
from the dead.



1 Peter 1:3, NRSV

MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

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2nd Sunday of Easter

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *We pray to You, merciful God in heaven, give us faith, the true and living faith, which trusts in You and in Your Son Jesus, the Risen Christ, that we might have life through Him; then shall our souls be fortified with peace and courage in life and in death. Hear us for the sake of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 482 *This Joyful Eastertide*

**1 *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!***

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

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

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

C Amen!

The Confession and Absolution of Sins

We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant forgiveness:

C Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We

have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie – Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis – Latin for “Glory in the Highest (to God).” A hymn glorifying and praising our God.

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to all peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-enly king, al-might-y God and
Fa-ther: We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we
praise You for Your glo-ry. Lord Je-sus
Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

P Let us pray. . . through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

The First Scripture Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: . . . "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know--²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.²⁵ For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.³⁰ Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne,³¹ he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption.³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalm 16*

- P** Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- C** I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."
- P** As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.
- C** The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.
- P** The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- C** The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.
- P** I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- C** I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- P** Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.
- C** For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.
- P** You make known to me the path of life;
- C** In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.



The Gospel Reading: *John 20:19-31*

On 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." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So 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." ²⁶ Eight 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." ²⁷ Then 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." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my

God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but 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 Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! These words are
writ-ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

A Confession of Faith from Luther's Small Catechism

We boldly profess our faith and refresh ourselves in the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

P What is the First Article?

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has created me and all creatures. He has given me my body and life, eyes, ears, and all my bodily members, my mind, and all my senses and still keeps them for me. God also preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all my property and all I need to support this body and life. He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil. God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it. For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Hymn 470:1,4-8 *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

*1 O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave hath lost its sting! Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!*

*4 That night the Apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said: "My peace be with you here." Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!*

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

*6 "My pierced 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 that have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

The Sermon: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed 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, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so 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. ⁸ Though 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, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Theme: GOD'S GIFTS IN YOUR EASTER BASKET

I. A living hope II. An imperishable inheritance III. An inexpressible joy

The Offertory

Having heard God's Word, we ask Him to spiritually heal us, giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O
God. Re - new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres-ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir-it from me. Re - store to me the joy of Your sal-
va - tion. Up - hold me with Your free Spir - it.

Hymn 465 *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

1 Now all the vault of Heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here:

"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife.

Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above

That we conquer through your triumph;

Grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:

"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"

Be to the Father and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God,

All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by using the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's \$cashtag is "\$clcmzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

(WS 788:1): **Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand**

Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land.

Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true

That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.

Prayer of the Church – 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 Benediction *The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)*

Closing Hymn 488 *He Is Arisen! Glorious Word!*

He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are open.

My Jesus did triumphant die, And Satan's arrows broken lie,

Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.

Oh, hear what cheer! Christ victorious Rising glorious, Life is giving.

He was dead but now is living!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

WELCOME EVERYONE! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach. Where and when? Your convenience.

THE Q2 VOTERS MEETING is today following the service.

A CONGREGATIONAL FUTURE PLANNING MEETING is next Sunday, April 23, following the service. The Board of Education will present a feasibility report, and update everyone on the ongoing plans for opening a Christian Day School in fall of 2024. All questions are welcome and encouraged.

THE LAST UM ANN ARBOR BIBLE STUDY of the semester is this Friday at 2pm at the Shapiro Library. Thus will conclude 8 months of weekly Bible study at the university. We thank the Lord for this blessed opportunity to share His Word with member and non-member college students and look forward to resuming this weekly Bible study in the fall.

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Today	11am	Q2 Voters Meeting
Friday	2pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 4/23	9am	Bible Class and Sunday School
	10am	Divine Worship Service
	11am	Congregational Meeting: Update from BoE on Christian Day School planning
Sun. 5/7	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
Tue. 5/9	7-9pm	Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach Meetings
Mon.-Tue. 6/5-6/6		Great Lakes Delegates Conference Messiah Lutheran Church, Hales Corners, WI
Tue.-Thu. 6/20-6/22		CLC General Pastoral Conference Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI
Sun. 8/6	4pm	50 th Anniversary Service and Dinner

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus. **Jay Sandeen** is deployed with his army unit in Iraq. **The Wittorps** are expecting a baby girl in April. **The Ryans** are expecting a baby in September. **CLC Pastor John Hein**, 56, Grace, Fridley MN, is being treated for thymic carcinoma (cancer).

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Matt Fobear Church Cleaning: Matt and Susan Fobear

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Attendance Last Sunday: Worship = 47

Total Offerings Budgeted YTD:	\$29,711.54	Bi-Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$3961.54
Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$39,094.82	Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$4017.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$3909.48
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$71,413.99

WEEKLY MEMORY WORK:

P What is the Second Article?

C I 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He 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. He did this 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. This is most certainly true.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION SYNODWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Chad Seybt of the quad parish of the CLC churches in Onalaska, Fairchild, Millston, and Melrose, WI **has returned the call** from the dual parish of Redemption, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension, WA. <> Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace, Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith, New Ulm, MN, **has received** the call to serve as the third pastor at Messiah, Eau Claire, WI. <> Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI, **has called** Mrs. Chris Gerbitz as teacher. Mrs. Gerbitz is a member at Peace Thru Christ.