

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD:

Easter Day

April 4, 2021 – 8:00 a.m.
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
4101 Washington Street NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! *To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!*

Assisted hearing devices and large print orders of service are available from the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Pastor Hugo or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.

Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).

Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.

+ CONNECT +

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

“THREE WITNESSES”

(Please rise and face the processional cross)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:

Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;

**He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!**

("Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven", st. 1 & 3 – public domain; st 2 copyright Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in the risen Christ begin in baptism:
In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING PRAISE (from Psalm 118):

L: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

C: **Let Israel say: "His love endures forever."**

L: Let the house of Aaron say: "His love endures forever."

C: **Let those who fear the LORD say: "His love endures forever."**

L: Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous:

ALL: **"The LORD'S right hand has done mighty things! Alleluia!**

L: The LORD'S right hand is lifted high;

C: **The LORD'S right hand has done mighty things!"**

L: I will not die but live,

C: **And will proclaim what the LORD has done.**

L: Open for me the gates of the righteous;
C: **I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.**

L: This is the gate of the LORD
C: **Through which the righteous may enter.**

L: The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
C: **The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: The LORD has done it this very day;
ALL: **Let us rejoice today and be glad.**

L: You are my God, and I will praise you;
ALL: **You are my God, and I will exalt you. Alleluia!**

L: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
ALL: **His love endures forever! Alleluia!**

L: Christ is risen!
C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

HYMN OF PRAISE: "The Day of Resurrection"
The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
And, list'ning to his accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

**Then praise we God the Father, And praise we Christ his Son,
With them the Holy Spirit, Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Holy and Living God, like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light, open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another, and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. Spread your table before us now and let us feast on all that you have for us. We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death and changed life, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

L: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

(You may be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 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. 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 his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. 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."

L: The Word of the risen Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

EPISTLE LESSON: I Corinthians 15:1-11

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

L: The Word of the risen Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

(Please rise)

HOLY GOSPEL:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 16.
C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'" Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

P: This is the Gospel of our risen Lord.
C: **Praise to You, O Christ! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CHORAL RESPONSE: "Joy to the Heart" – K. Lee Scott
Festival Choir

MESSAGE: “Look Again” – Pastor Bill Hugo

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”
Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel into joy from sadness,
Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

This the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison
And from three day’s sleep in death as a sun has risen;
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
From his light, to whom is giv’n laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;
Comes to gladden faithful hearts which with true affection
Welcome in unwearied strain Jesus’ resurrection!

For today among his own Christ appeared, bestowing
His deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death nor the tomb’s dark portal
Nor the watchers nor the seal hold him as a mortal.

Alleluia! Now we cry to our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb’s dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel In to joy from sadness!

(“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”, setting copyright 1969 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

P: As we come to the Lord's table to experience this feast of victory and receive the body and blood of Jesus in the Lord's Supper for our forgiveness, it is important to take time to confess our need for the forgiveness He offers and to recognize that Jesus is the only one that meets that need. *(Silence for personal confession and reflection)*

C: **Lord Jesus, we need the forgiveness you offer this day. Just as we needed you to be on that cross in our place three days ago, we need you here in this place today. We haven't kept your commandments. We haven't loved others the way you commanded. Our thoughts have gone places they shouldn't. Words have left our lips that never should have even entered our hearts. We need the forgiveness that you alone can give and that you bought for us on the cross. Amen.**

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "I Will Rise" – arr. Larson
Festival Choir

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: “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 heaven’ly 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!**

**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!**

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Lay Minister: Louise Roberts

Skit Actors: Kevin Lindee, Lori Krueger, Andrew Wagner

Ushers: Alman Team

Power Point: Caitlin Kyseth

Acolyte: Parker Kyseth

Lector: Andrew Wagner

St. Matthew Easter Band

Trumpets

Will Hugo

Charles Kikeh

Andrew Wagner

Trombones

Aubree Allen

Ted Landwehr

Mack Martin

Alto Sax

Sydney Naber

Clarinet

Chuy Ramirez

Flute

Kevin Lindee

Viola

Renata Kikeh

Director

Brenda Hugo

Good Friday & Easter Festival Choir

Craig Affeldt

Bruce Blase

Judie Colaianni

Maria Davis

Jacqueline Hed

Ben Hugo

Brenda Hugo

Will Hugo

Lori Krueger

Kristen Landwehr

Kevin Lindee

Deb Santillo

Andrew Wagner

Michelle Wermerskirchen

Karrie Kikeh, accompanist