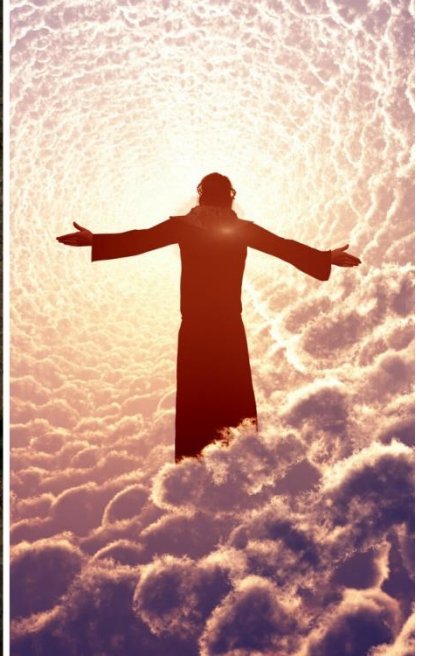


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church & Royal Family

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



“Resurrection Punctuation”

1 Peter 1:1-7

Order of Worship

Easter Sunday March 31, 2024 – 11 AM

Pastor Matthew Cephus, with Guest Pastor Willaim Utech

3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

612-781-1989

Music Director: Martin McGinn

Welcome to God's House!

We strive to be the local church in the community of Northeast Minneapolis, who are here to help people come to KNOW Jesus, GROW in their faith and GO into the world equipped to SERVE others. GLORY TO GOD!

Today's Topic: Jesus came to bring God's message of unconditional love and forgiveness.

A special welcome to visitors and guests; we are pleased that you have joined us today! If you have no church family, and if we can be of any assistance to you, please speak with the Pastor after the service or via the church office. We pray you will feel God's love for you and be empowered to live as God's child this week. We look forward to seeing you again.

Is there something you'd like us to pray for today? If you have family members or friends who require our prayers, please use the prayer request cards found in each pew. They will be added to the Prayer list. You can hand your request to an usher before the service or during the offering. They will be given to the Pastor to be included in the prayers for today. **Other prayer requests can be made by contacting the church office at 612.781.1989.**

Children are welcome in worship!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated.

When we receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ,

- we express the belief that Jesus is the Son of God and Son of Man;
- that Jesus is our Savior and only way for salvation;
- that Jesus offers us His Body and Blood in a mysterious yet real way;
- that Christ's sacrificial death grants the forgiveness of our sins;
- and that God is strengthening us in this Sacrament to live a more godly life and to amend with the help of the Holy Spirit, those areas not in conformity with God's will.

We declare these statements because it is our concern for people to not be hypocritical between their faith and celebrate the blessings of God's Table at the Altar. e.

You have heard of Jesus, but do you know him?

Join Gloria Dei for Bible Study

- Wednesday, April 3, 11 am bible study (lead by Sandy Westling), followed by fellowship.
- Thursday, March 28, 5:30 pm bible study (lead by Katie Beth and Daniel Carlson) "Ephesians".

Festival of Easter Sunday

AS WE GATHER: Jesus died so we would not have to experience eternal death. Jesus rose again so that we could experience eternal life. That's what Easter is all about. He's risen indeed! Alleluia!

+ CONNECT +

WELCOME HYMN SOLO

"He is Alive"

Karmon Christopherson

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"Alive, Alive, Alive Forever More"

Children Only

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

C: Amen.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

SONG OF PRAISE

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!"

LSB 457

Text and Tune: Public Domain

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 heavenly 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 you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS

L: Let us confess our sins to our Heavenly Father who truly loves us.
(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

C: Gracious Father, you sent your son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we might live a new life in Him. Yet we confess that we too often have chosen to remain captive to doubt and fear and ways that lead to death. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and defaced your image in us. Father, forgive us for Jesus' sake, and enable us by His resurrection power to live no longer for ourselves but for Him who died and rose again for us. Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

+ *NURTURE* +

FIRST LESSON

Read by Pastor Sam Winker

Psalm 118:15-29

Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly, the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!"

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

L: The Word of the risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

EPISTLE LESSON

Read by Sandy Westling

1 Peter 1:1-7

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

Born Again to a Living Hope

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, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 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.

L: The Word of the risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Read by Sandy Westling

Matthew 28:1-9

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

The Resurrection

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to

the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.

L: This is the Gospel of our risen Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HYMN OF THE DAY "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461 vs 1,2,4,8

Text and Tune: Public Domain

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 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

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!

SERMON

"Resurrection Punctuation"

Pastor William Utech

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.

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

+ *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.**

COMMUNION DUET

“Because He Lives”

Pastor Matthew & Patience

Congregation Chorus Only

© 1971, William & Gloria Gaither, CCLI # 16880

Chorus:

**Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!**

PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

L: It is our duty and delight at all times and everywhere to give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for You have enlightened us by the working of the Holy Spirit. Grant that the Spirit, who has called and gathered us, would guide us in all things, that we be enabled to speak the Gospel to others and rejoice in sharing the gift of salvation that is our treasure. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, with You and the Holy Spirit, is one God, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take this, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you, Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"To God be the Glory"

Text and Music: Public Domain

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

**Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.**

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. **Refrain**

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **Refrain**

BENEDICTION

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.

+ Silent Prayer +


POSTLUDE

+ WE DEPART TO SERVE +

+ + +

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The Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday, March 31)



Heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, has brought life and bodily resurrection into the world. Grant that we may ever be joined to Him as branches to a vine, that we may bear the fruit of the Spirit and enjoy the fellowship of the new creation in Christ eternally, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



HE IS RISEN!
— HAPPY EASTER

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

3/31 Sun

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Sunday

**11:00 am Joint Worship with Holy Communion,
Guest Pastor William Utech Preaching**

6:00 pm NA

4/01 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AlAnon (upstairs)

4/03 Wed

11:00 am Mid-Week Bible Study w/Fellowship

4/04 Thurs

5:30 pm Thursday Evening Bible Study "Ephesians"

4/05 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

4/06 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

4/07 Sun

Second Sunday after Easter

**10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion,
Guest Pastor Vue Lee**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA



Thank You

Katie Beth & Daniel Carlson, Pastor Matthew & Family, Karmon & Meridel Christopherson, Julie Cross, Chris Hadrath, Shirley Holzinger, Gwen Johnson, Tom & Patty Lyrenmann, Barb McDonald, Al, Pam & Aaron Morelli, Mary Piper, Verlayne Sather, Pat Scott, Shirley Slagle, Sandy Westling for their generous donation of blooming plants for our Easter Garden. Our altar looks amazing! Also, a special thank you to Patty Lyrenmann for making all the arrangements.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!



TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

March 31

"Eucatastrophe"

(Mark 16:6-7)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The top three best-selling books all present visions of hope, but how they hope to achieve it is a much different story.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

April 7

"Raise the Flag"

(Acts 1:1-11)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Learn how the followers of Christ are raising God's flag in the world.

On Sunday mornings, listen on 830 AM WCCO AM at 6:05 am, or 1110 AM, Omaha, at 6:30 am, or XM 170 Satellite Radio on Sundays at noon or listen anytime at www.lutheranhour.org

STEWARDSHIP: *Easter*

John 20:1 – "Now on the first day of the week ..." All is made new by the resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament's Sabbath (Saturday) to the Lord's Day of the New Testament (Sunday). For the Lord has made all things new: In rising from the dead as the new Adam, He has begun a new week for a new creation. We are also made new in Him — a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our risen Lord's grace. Especially after the sort of year we've had since last Easter, it sure is good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh!

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"The disciples and the first century Christians may have felt like they were on the losing side. They had their doubts and fears. Maybe you do, too. They may have lost some earthly things. You may, too. But Jesus takes away the fear and the doubt. You have hope in His resurrection. You have hope even through the trials of life. You have a living hope in your living Lord." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. This week's episode is "Three Days" – The disciples' reactions and interaction in the days between Jesus' death and resurrection. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Dr. Steven Turner, President of the Iowa District West of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, presenting a message titled "Jesus lives! What Does This Mean?" based on Mark 16:1-8. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.