



**St. John  
Lutheran  
Church**

2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake,  
MI 48629  
989-366-5164

**9:00 - Traditional**



**March 31, 2024**

# ***Welcome***

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service.

May God bless your worship with us today,  
*Paul Kruse, Pastor*

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live,  
Learn, Share, and Serve'***

*Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of  
Christian faith in our community, to all  
generations, wherever they may be'*

## **As We Gather**

**Easter Sunday**

***Divine Service Four*** (pp 203ff)

### **A Time of Preparation**

**Prelude**

**"Christ Arose"** (*Jane, Carol and Emily*)

**Sharing of the Peace and Welcome**

**Opening Song**

**"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"** *LSB 457*

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!

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!

Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; (sts. 1–3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707–88 Text: Public domain

## Invocation

LSB 203

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination*

**P** Almighty God,

**C** **Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**P** I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;

**C** **the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.**

**P** The Lord is my strength and my song,

**C** **and he has become my salvation.**

**P** Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,

**C** **your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.**

**P** You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;

**C** you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

**P** You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,

**C** the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode,

**P** the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

**C** The Lord will reign forever and ever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### **Lord, Have Mercy** *(Sung)*

*LSB 204*

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

### **Glory to God in the Highest** *(Sung)*

*LSB 204*

**C** To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God  
in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name we sing—Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God,  
our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray; O Lamb of God,  
our Savior, You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive  
our heartfelt cry, Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on  
high—

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, Be  
worshiped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most  
High, In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray together...

**C** Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus  
Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting  
life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's  
resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving  
Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia *(sung)*

LSB 205

**C** **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading

Mark 16:1-8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the sixteenth chapter

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" <sup>4</sup> And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup> And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup> And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and

astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

*LSB 206*

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\times$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

**"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"** *LSB 477*

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!

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## Message

## “Why Would You Do That?”

## Offering

*Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.*



## Prayer of the Church

### Service of the Sacrament

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and proper . . . Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy** *(Sung)*

LSB 208

- ☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

LSB 209

- ☐ Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:**
- ☐ 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**

LSB 162

## **The Peace of the Lord**

LSB 209

- ☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.**
- ☐ Amen.**

## **Lamb of God** *(Sung)*

LSB 210

- ☐ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**
- ☐ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**

*The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). Holy Communion is offered every Sunday at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:*

- 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?*
- 2. Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?*
- 3. Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?*
- 4. Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?*
- 5. Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?*
- 6. Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly given and received in and*



*with the bread and wine (Matt. 26:26-28)?*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer “yes” to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises.*

**Distribution Hymn    “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465**

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!

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!

O 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!

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!

## Song of Simeon *(Sung)*

LSB 211

**G O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One; For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

**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 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.

**G Amen.**

## Blessing

**P** 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.

**G Amen.**

## Closing Song      **"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"** *LSB 461 (vs 1,2,6,8)*

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, 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.

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!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr. Text: Public domain

#### **Acknowledgments**

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