

March 31, 2024 9:30am

Easter Festival



*“I Tell You the Truth . . .
Your Grief Will Turn to Joy”*



HOLY TRINITY
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Welcome to Holy Trinity

We're glad you came today to join us in worshipping the one true God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He has graciously created us, mercifully redeemed us, and freely gives us all the treasures of heaven through His Word and Sacraments!

If you are a visitor with us today, please sign the "**Guest**" cards in the pews and give them to the ushers or pastor. If you want to find out more about what we teach, or are curious about church membership, please talk to our pastor.

A Parents' Room is located at the rear of the sanctuary if you need to temporarily leave to calm a child. Inside the Parents' Room you can still see, hear and participate in the worship service.

Wheelchair accommodations are found on the organ side of the church. If you do not use a wheelchair, be careful to leave space in these wheelchair accessible pews for the benefit of those who need them and their families.

HOLY TRINITY is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, Minnesota. We confess that we are saved by Grace Alone (Eph. 2:8) through Faith Alone (Acts 16:31) revealed in Scripture Alone (John 5:24). Though we are totally sinful from birth, Jesus Christ paid for our sins on the cross and gives us eternal life in heaven. We subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions (the Book of Concord, 1580) because they are a faithful and accurate summary of this Biblical doctrine. The ELS has been in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) since 1872.



EASTER FESTIVAL SERVICE

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Opening Hymn • 352, “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. 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!</p> <p>2. 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!</p> | <p>3. 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!</p> <p>4. 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!</p> |
|--|--|

-Stand-

Invocation

☞ *In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.*

☒ Amen.

Confession and Absolution

☞ *Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

☒ **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.**

☞ *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.*

☒ Amen.

An Easter Dialogue

P *Christ is risen!*

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

P *Jesus Christ was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.*

C **Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God.**

P *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

C **In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**

P *Death has been swallowed up in victory.*

C **Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade.*

C **This inheritance is kept in heaven for us.**

P *Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in him will live, even though they die.*

C **And those who live and believe in him will never die.**

P *I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.*

C **I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another.**

P *Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.*

C **When Christ, who is our life, appears, we will appear with him in glory.**

P *Why do you look for the living among the dead?*

C **He is not here; he has risen!**

P *This is the day the Lord has made.*

C **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P *Christ is risen!*

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

Hymn • “This Is the Feast of Victory”

[CW93 265]

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, And
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, And
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might Be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain Has be -

Refrain

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia!

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day

P *The Lord be with you.*

A **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray:*

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

A **Amen.**

-Be seated-

First Reading • Job 19:23-27

By faith Job knew that because the Redeemer lives, even though Job would die and his body would decay, he would see his God with his own eyes in the resurrection.

“Oh, that my words were recorded,
 that they were written on a scroll,
²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,
 or engraved in rock forever!
²⁵ I know that my Redeemer lives,
 and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.
²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed,
 yet in my flesh I will see God;
²⁷ I myself will see him
 with my own eyes—I, and not another.
 How my heart yearns within me!” (NIV84)

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn • 351, sts. 1,2,7,8, “I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. 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.</p> | <p>7. He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death.
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.</p> |
| <p>2. He lives triumphant from the grave;
 He lives eternally to save.
 He lives all-glorious in the sky;
 He lives exalted there on high.</p> | <p>8. He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
 O the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 “I know that my Redeemer lives!”</p> |

Second Reading • 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Christ gives us hope in this life. But Christ’s resurrection gives us hope also for the eternal life that is to come.

If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. ²² For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive.

²³ But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ’s people, at his coming. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign “until he has put all his enemies under his feet.” ²⁶ Death is the last enemy to be done away with.

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn • “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

[CWS 720, sts. 1-4]



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong
 2 No son of man could con - quer
 3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came
 4 It was a strange and dread - ful



bands For our of - fens - es giv -
 death, Such ru - in sin had wrought -
 down, His peo - ple to de - liv -
 strife When life and death con - tend -



en; But now at God's right hand he
 us. No in - no - cence was found on
 er; De - stroy - ing sin, he took the
 ed. The vic - to - ry re - mained with



stands And brings us life from heav -
 earth, And there - fore death had brought
 crown From death's pale brow for - ev -
 life; The reign of death was end -



en. There - fore let us joy - ful be
 us In - to bond - age from of old
 er. Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;
 ed. Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says



And sing to God right thank - ful -
 And ev - er grew more strong and
 An emp - ty form a - lone re -
 That death is swal - lowed up by



ly Loud songs of al - le - lu -
 bold And held us as its cap -
 mains; Its sting is lost for - ev -
 death. Its sting is lost for - ev -



ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tive. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 118:24

☐ *Alleluia. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.*



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel • Mark 16:1-8

Early Easter morning, an angel explains to the women why they won't find Jesus' corpse in the tomb.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus.² Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb.³ They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?"⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.⁶ He said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.

⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

⁸They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

📖 *The Gospel of our Lord.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God!**

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He shall 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.

– Be seated –

Hymn • “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

[CWS 720, sts. 5-6]

**5. Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree—
So strong His love—to save us.
See, His blood now marks our door;
Faith points to it, death passes o’er,
And Satan cannot harm us.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**6. So let us keep the festival
To which the Lord invites us;
Christ is Himself the Joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
The night of sin is ended.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sermon • John 16:16-22

"In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

¹⁷ Some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸ They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

¹⁹ Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'?" ²⁰ I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²² So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. (NIV84)

"I Tell You the Truth . . . Your Grief Will Turn to Joy"

1. You will weep, mourn, and grieve, but
2. Your grief will turn to joy.

Offering

Hymn • 340, sts. 1, 2, 4, "*Alleluia! Jesus Lives*"

1. **Alleluia! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One;
From the gloomy house of death Forth the Conqueror has gone,
Bright Forerunner to the skies Of His people, yet to rise.**
2. **Jesus lives! Let all rejoice; Praise Him, ransomed ones of earth.
Praise Him in a nobler song, Cherubim of heav'nly birth.
Praise the Victor-King, whose sway Sin and death and hell obey.**

**4. Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, Life eternal waits for thee;
 Joined to Him, thy living Head, Where He is, thou, too, shalt be;
 With Himself, at His right hand, Victor over death shalt stand.**

-Stand-

Prayer of the Church

- P** *O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.*
- C** **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- P** *In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.*
- C** **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**
- P** *Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:*
- C** **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**
- P** *Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.*
- C** **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**
- P** *Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life. Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.*
(Silent Prayer)
- P** *Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:*
- C** **Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

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.

-Be seated-

Hymn • “Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

[CW93 154]

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

**1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the King of creation. *Refrain***

**3. We have been crucified with Christ;
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain***

**2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain***

**4. God has proclaimed his gracious gift:
Life eternal for all who believe. *Refrain***

**5. Come, let us praise the living God;
Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain***

-Stand-

Benediction

☩ *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.*

☩ Amen.

☩ *Christ is risen!*

☩ He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

-Be seated-

Closing Hymn • “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

[CW93 143]

1. **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 praises prolong.**
4. **Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you 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.**
5. **Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
Who now sits in glory and ever shall reign.**

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We Wish You a Blessed Easter!

