

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am March 31, 2024

Our mission is to share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.



Easter Day, The Resurrection of Our Lord

+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

PRELUDE Riverside Brass

Pastor This is the day that the Lord has made.
All Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
All And his steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor There are songs of victory in the tents of the righteous.
**All The right hand of the Lord has triumphed.
 The right hand of the Lord is exalted.**

Pastor Amen! Alleluia!
All Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

GATHERING HYMN

We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!



GREETING

Pastor

Beloved people of God, on this most holy day when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

All

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor

Let us pray.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

More than 700 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah proclaims the good news of God's salvation and calls all people to rejoice! God will make a rich feast for all people. God will wipe the tears from their eyes. And most importantly, God will destroy death itself.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader Word of God, word of life.
All Thanks be to God.

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit 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 toward me has not been 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. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Reader Word of God, word of life.
All Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 20:1-18

This morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood

SERMON

While It Was Still Dark
Pastor Sandy Kessinger

PRAYERS

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns. After each portion of the prayers:

Pastor God of grace,
All **hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
 trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
All **Amen.**

Pastor May the peace of the Lord be with you always.
All **And also with you.**

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Please greet one another with words such as "God's peace be with you."

Sit

+ SHARING OUR GIFTS +

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please give as you are able. We appreciate those who give in-person and those who give electronically.

Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

OFFERING MUSIC

"Easter Festival" by Michael S. Bryson

OFFERTORY

Please stand and sing.

We are an offering

Text and music: Dwight Liles
Text and music © 1984 Bug and Bear Music, admin. Word Music, Inc.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains five measures of music with the lyrics 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our'. The second staff contains six measures of music with the lyrics 'lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.' The music features various chords indicated above the notes: G, C², Dm⁷, C²/E, C/E, F, C/E, Dm⁷, Dm⁷/G, and C. There are also triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of three notes in the second staff.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.
All **Risen Lord,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.
Amen.**

+ COME TO THE TABLE +

Pastor The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.
All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
All **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.**

Pastor Come, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
Communion will be offered by intinction.
For those not comfortable receiving from those who are distributing the
elements, a separate tray is available.*

*Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to
come forward for a blessing. To receive a blessing, please cross your arms.
You are an important part of our faith community.*

In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.



All sing.

I will sing, I will sing



1 I will sing, I will sing a song un - to the Lord.
2 We will come, we will come as one be - fore the Lord.
3 If the Son, if the Son shall make you . . . free,
4 They that sow in tears shall reap in . . . joy.
5 Ev - 'ry knee shall bow . . . and ev - 'ry tongue con - fess,
6 In his name, in his name we have the vic - to - ry.



I will sing, I will sing a song un - to the Lord.
We will come, we will come as one be - fore the Lord.
if the Son, if the Son shall make you . . . free,
They that sow in tears shall reap in . . . joy.
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I will sing, I will sing a song un - to the Lord.
We will come, we will come as one be - fore the Lord.
if the Son, if the Son shall make you . . . free,
They that sow in tears shall reap in . . . joy.
ev - 'ry knee shall bow . . . and ev - 'ry tongue con - fess,
In his name, in his name we have the vic - to - ry.



Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
you . . . shall be free in - deed.
Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
that . . . Je - sus Christ is . . . Lord.
Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord. Al - le -



lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo -



- ry to the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.

Please stand.

Pastor

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood,
strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

All

Amen.

PRAYER

Asst. Min.

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of
salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your
people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may
proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the
risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All

Amen.

+ THE SENDING +

BENEDICTION

Pastor

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

All

Amen.

***Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew.
As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.***

SENDING SONG

“Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah* - G.F. Handel

Join the choir as you feel called in this joyous proclamation:

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

*For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

*For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

*King of kings and Lord of lords
King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forever and ever
Forever and ever*

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah*

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

All

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Riverside Brass

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are welcome in our worship.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email:

Church@redeemermclean.org



Hearing help available: We have for your use personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex.

Sunday Services

9:45 am for the contemporary service and 8:30 am and 11 am for traditional services

Next Sunday's Scripture: Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31

It's Not Over Yet

When you think back over your favorite books, do you remember the endings? If the story leads to a satisfying conclusion, even if the plot twists and turns, the writer keeps our attention. When we commit to a book, we put a lot of faith in the author to tell a good story and to wrap up their tale in a way that makes sense. When the ending is unclear or unbelievable, we wish we hadn't invested so much time in their book.

When Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices to Jesus' tomb, they thought they knew the ending of his story. Jesus' death on the cross brought his ministry to an abrupt conclusion. There was nothing left to do but show their devotion by anointing him with spices. How surprised the women must have been to hear that Jesus' story hadn't ended after all! He had been raised. He was going ahead of his followers to Galilee. They would see him again!

To us, this story of Jesus' resurrection is familiar, so we hear it as good news. For the women, though, it was terrifying. This wasn't how they expected Jesus' story to turn out. They had seen him die on the cross, and now they were being told he was alive? They didn't know what to make of this twist in Jesus' story. They were so afraid that they fled.

The women ran away because they were shocked when the story didn't turn out the way they expected. But soon they would learn that this was a happy ending: Where they had seen death, God made a way for new life! What seemed like the conclusion was actually a beginning. It was the dawn of a new day, a resurrection day. As followers of Jesus, we don't know what our future holds or how our stories will end, but we can trust that Jesus is alive. He goes ahead of us, leading us into a future full of God's love and grace.

We would like to thank Matt Osifchin and the Praise Team for the wonderful music they provide. We also thank the Riverside Brass for their instrumental contribution to our worship services today.

To the many hands who created our beautiful Easter garden
and to those who create the wonderful banners,

THANK YOU!

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Please return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.