

# BETHESDA MENNONITE CHURCH

HENDERSON, NEBRASKA

## EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 5, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Prelude Pastor Chelsea Vaught, Organist  
"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" Martin  
"Thine is the Glory" Osterland  
"Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Hobby

"Christ, Our Ever-Dawning Hope" Harlan Chancel Choir  
Directed by Lynn Hall and accompanied by  
Pastor Chelsea Vaught, organ and Spencer Schiffbauer, cello

Call to Worship Pastor Andrea Wall

**(congregation read the bold print)**

**One:** Listen. Do you hear it?

**All: The sound of joy. Laughter breaking in.**

**One:** Listen! It sounds like harmony.

**All: Angels singing.**

**One:** Why are you weeping?

For the grief? For the beauty?

**All: Jesus is risen!**

**One:** Yes! And creation sings it.

Yesterday's tears linger, as they must,

**All: but love is stronger than death.**

**One:** Do you believe this?

Listen, Jesus is speaking your name.

**All: Our names – each one.**

**One:** Like music of the soul. Can you hear it?

**All: It is the sound of resurrection.**

**One:** Let us worship the Risen One!

\*\*"Christ the Lord is risen today" HWB 280  
(Children are invited to come forward on stanza 5)

Children's Focus Kara Janzen

\*\*"Christ is alive! Let Christians sing!" HWB 278

Congregational Prayer Alan Janzen  
"To the Lamb on the Throne" Forrest Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18 Pastor J Epp  
**Leader:** This is the Word of God, for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God!

Message "Easter, Calls Your Name" Pastor J Epp

\*\*"Low in the grave he lay" HWB 273

Announcements Pastor Andrea Wall  
Offering to God Pastor Andrea Wall  
Offertory Pastor Chelsea Vaught  
"This Joyful Eastertide" Burkhardt

\* Benediction Pastor J Epp

\* "Christ Victorious" Kettring Chancel Choir

Postlude Pastor Chelsea Vaught  
"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done" Black

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*\* If you are able, you are invited to stand.*

All are invited to participate in the Christian Education Hour  
and to stop by the Coffee Spot in the Fellowship Hall.

# John 1:1-18

## The Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

## Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman why are you crying? Who

is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.



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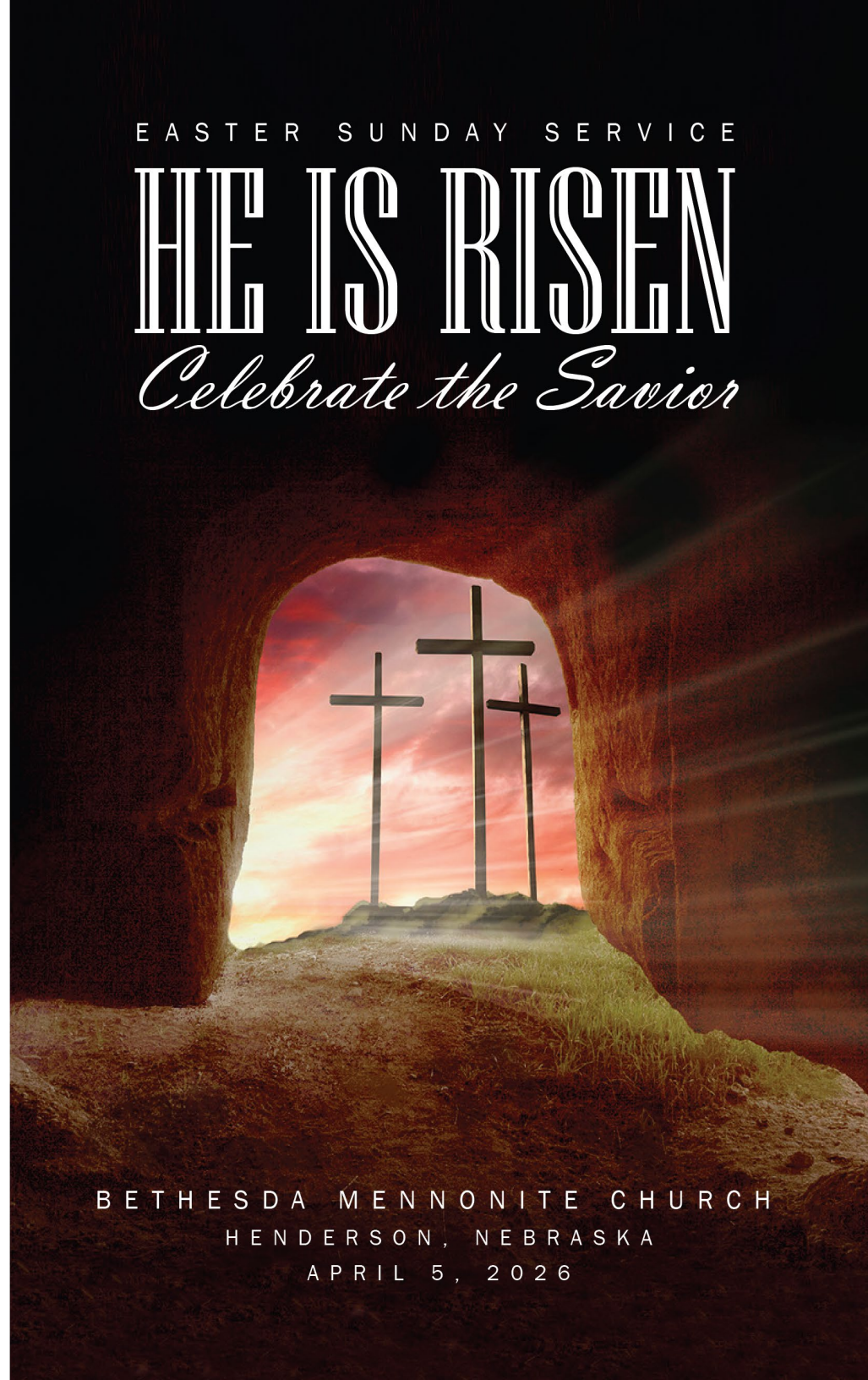
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- When you are unable to attend worship, please join us via...
  - Radio at KOOL 103.5 FM
  - Livestream at <http://bethesdamc.org/watch-live>
  - Cobalt Cable Channel #3207
- Hearing Impaired Worshipers: If you need hearing assistance, feel free to sit in the front center seating to take advantage of our Hearing-Loop system. Williams units are also available in the rear of the sanctuary for your use.
- When you desire pastoral care outside of office hours, please call:
  - Pastor Andrea Wall: 402-710-3195 (cell) or email [andrea@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:andrea@mainstaycomm.net)
  - Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004 (cell) or email [chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org](mailto:chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org)
  - Pastor J. Epp: 402-366-7475 (cell) or email [j.epp@bethesdamc.org](mailto:j.epp@bethesdamc.org)

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

# HE IS RISEN

*Celebrate the Savior*



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APRIL 5, 2026