



3rd Sunday of Easter
April 23, 2023

Messiah Lutheran Church

3186 Eaton Rd, Green Bay, WI 54311

messiahgb.org (920) 465-6013

Pastor Aaron Schultz

office@messiahgb.org | pastorschultz@messiahgb.org

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you have joined us and we pray that your time with us brings joy to your heart and soul. The service is printed for you in this worship folder or on the screens in front. Musical notes and other resources can be found in the blue hymnals and bibles available as you enter the worship area.

We invite you to connect with us by signing our online guestbook available at messiahgb.org.

Our restrooms are located in the hallway to the left as you leave the worship area.

Parents, we encourage you to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastor, ushers, etc. If your child grows restless, we invite you to step out of the worship area into our cry room, near the restrooms. Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

To our members, the presence of children is a gift from God and a sign of a growing congregation. Greet parents of young children with a smile!

If you have any questions regarding our worship services, Bible classes and Sunday School or Connect Groups, please speak with our pastor. Please come again and worship with us very soon!

He Lives! To Restore My Hope

Imagine someone you love is near death. Their only hope of survival is a risky brain surgery, one so complicated only one surgeon in the state will attempt it. But as that doctor drives to the hospital, he is killed in a car accident. Any hope you had for your loved one's salvation died along with that surgeon. That is how Jesus' disciples felt after his death. So, the living Lord appeared to his disciples. He opened their minds to the truth of God's Word. And in doing so, he restored their hope. The one who can heal us and give us life to the full lives! He lives to restore our hope.

445 He's Risen, He's Risen



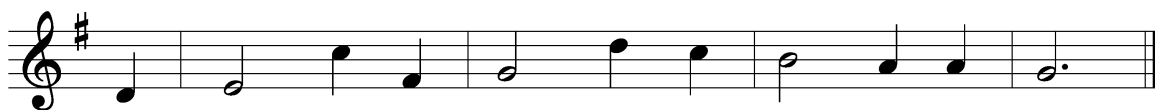
1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van-quished, his foes.
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;
For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.
re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.
with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Text: tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.; C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887, abr.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887

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Opening Responses

L: O Lord, open my lips.

C: (sung) And my mouth shall declare your praise

L: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: (sung) O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Confession

M: 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.

C: 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.

Silence for meditation.

Absolution

(The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" [The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?]. See John 20:21-23.)

M: 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.

C: Amen.

 **C** Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

Verses

1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
 2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,

cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
 kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.

You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
 You are the God whom we call our own,

to Refrain

you made the seas and the dry land.
 we are the flock that you shep - herd.

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Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

First Lesson

Acts 2:14a,32–41

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand

³⁵until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.” ’

³⁶“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Psalm 67

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 1:17–21

¹⁷Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia! Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Timothy 1:10) Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 24:13–35

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹"What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

³³They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Children's Sermon

824 This Is the Threefold Truth



1 This is the three-fold truth on which our faith de - pends;
 2 Long used by saints of old, new - mint - ed for our time,
 3 On this we fix our minds as, kneel - ing side by side,
 4 By this we are up - held when doubt or grief as - sails
 5 This is the three-fold truth which, if we hold it fast,



and with this joy - ful cry — wor - ship be - gins and ends:
 our lit - ur - gies con - fess the hope we — have in him:
 we take the bread and wine, take him, the — Cru - ci - fied:
 our Chris - tian faith and love, and on - ly — grace a - vails:
 chang - es the world and us and brings us — home at last:



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Tune: Jack Schrader, b. 1942

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Sermon

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 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.**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

M: Almighty God, whose power raised Jesus Christ from the dead, accept our thanks and praise for your mighty act.

C: Through our Savior you have made known to us the way of eternal life.

M: For the evidence of so many eyewitnesses to His resurrection and for the Holy Spirit has been given to us.

C: We give you thanks for the gift of believing in your name.

M: By His power we are moved to live our lives for you.

C: By His power we show your love until you come again to take us home.

M: Heavenly Father, open our eyes to see and move our hands to act so that others will come into contact with your saving Word.

C: Bring others into your family that they may enjoy heaven with us.

M: Lord Jesus Christ, as you accepted the invitation of the Emmaus disciples,

C: we ask that you break bread also with us.

M: Abide with us for the day of this world's history is drawing to a close.

C: We need your presence every hour for you alone are the bread of life.

M: At times our hearts are troubled by the effects of sin in the world.

C: Calm our hearts and remind us that you are still ruling this world for our benefit.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

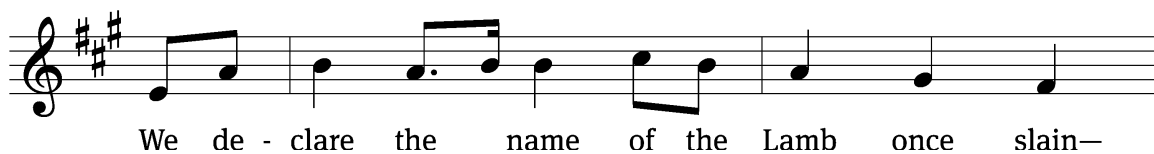
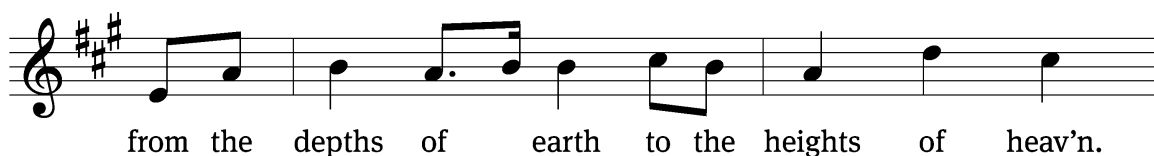
M: By your grace forgive us our sins and keep us in the faith. May we one day fully experience your presence, rejoicing with all those in heaven. In your name we join in praying -

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

929 May the Peace of God

1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther,
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,
and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,
and this grace which makes us what we are,
and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion



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Lord, Have Mercy



be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer for Grace

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

L Let us praise the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Blessing



L The Lord bless and keep you.



C A - men.



L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



C A - men.



L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

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