

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



The Empty Tomb Fills Our Lives with Eternal Life  
*Easter Sunday*

March 31, 2024



## Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

## Service Notes For This Sunday

It would not be productive to look for help in a cemetery. A corpse can do only one thing—rot. This is the source of the crushing sorrow Jesus' followers felt. He was the one in whom they had placed all their hope for a better reality. Now he was dead, so they thought. They were overwhelmed with sorrow, not just because they missed their friend. It now all seemed so pointless: the years and miles following Jesus, witnessing his miracles, listening to him. He was dead! And a corpse can only do one thing.



The resurrection changed everything. The disciples saw clearly that Jesus is who he said he was and did what he said he'd do. They realized their faith rested on a rock-solid foundation. Here is the resurrection reality: If Christ had not been raised, our faith in him would be futile. He could do nothing to help us. But Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

## Those Serving in Worship

Pastor Lucas Proeber; Organist Destinee Fiecko; Church Choir

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# Easter Sunday

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## Welcome

## Hymn

438 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{T}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

This is the day the Lord has made.  
**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.

**Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.**

I will not die, but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's right hand is majestic in power.

The Lord's right hand has shattered the enemy.

**Death has been swallowed up in victory.**

The Lord will not abandon me to the grave.

He has made known to me the path of life.

**Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?

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

I know that my Redeemer lives,

and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

**The kingdom of the world has become  
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,  
and he will reign forever and ever.**



*Psalm 118:24*

*Exodus 15:1-2*

*Psalm 95:2*

*Psalm 118:17*

*Liturgical statement*

*Exodus 15:6-7*

*1 Corinthians 15:54*

*Psalm 16:10-11*

*John 20:29*

*1 Corinthians 15:55,57*

*Job 19:25*

*Revelation 11:15*

Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.  
**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain**  
**to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength**  
**and honor and glory and praise!**

Revelation 7:10

Revelation 5:12

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Song of Praise

471 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (sts. 1-2)



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there -



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"



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

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623. Text: © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903. Tune: Public domain

# The Word

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



## Prayer of the Day

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.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Job 19:23–27*

*Job is filled with joy and anticipation at the thought of the resurrection. Our hearts also yearn to see our risen Savior with our own eyes!*

- <sup>23</sup>“Oh, that my words were recorded,  
that they were written on a scroll,  
<sup>24</sup>that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,  
or engraved in rock forever!  
<sup>25</sup>I know that my redeemer lives,  
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.  
<sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been destroyed,  
yet in my flesh I will see God;  
<sup>27</sup>I myself will see him  
with my own eyes—I, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!” (NIV®)



The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Choir Anthem

*Arise, Arise!*

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

*Christ has indeed been raised! Our lives are filled with certainty that death has been destroyed.*

<sup>19</sup> If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." <sup>26</sup> Death is the last enemy to be done away with. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Contemporary Anthem

*Jesus Is Risen!*

*Stand*

## Gospel

Mark 16:1–8

*We do not need to be alarmed—the tomb is empty, just as Jesus said it would be.*

<sup>1</sup> When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. <sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?" <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

<sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

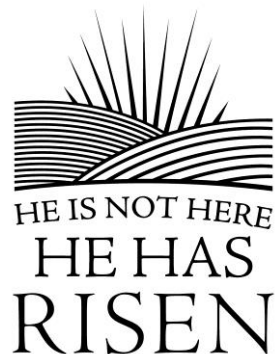
<sup>8</sup> They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid. (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Children's Message



Sermon

The Firstfruits Removes Your FOMO

*Stand*

**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.**

*Be seated*

**Prayer of the Church**

*with responses from I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

Thanks be to you, O Lord, for giving us the victory through your Son, Jesus Christ. You have not forsaken us or left us to our own destruction but kept your promise to send a Savior. We praise you for his perfect life, his innocent death, and his glorious resurrection.

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my everliving head!**
- 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.**

Lord Jesus, we praise you for carrying out God's plan of salvation. Your resurrection is undeniable evidence that you have triumphed over sin, death, hell, and the devil. Whenever our faith lacks certainty or our hearts are in need of comfort and help, remind us again and again that your tomb is empty, and we are victorious over death.

- 3 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above;  
he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.**
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye;  
he lives to comfort me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's complaint.**

Holy Spirit, we praise you that through the Gospel you have led us to know and believe that Jesus is our risen Savior. Today we, along with the angel, confidently say, “He is not here. He has risen!” Whenever we are lonely or sad, fearful or anxious, point us to the empty tomb so that we would always be calmed, comforted, and cheered by the power of your promises.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears;  
he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.**
- 6 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.**

Triune God, kindle in our hearts a love for all people. Equip us with both the will and the words to tell others that Jesus has indeed risen from the grave. Comfort all who stand at death’s door, as well as those who mourn the loss of a loved one who has died in faith. Remind us every day that because you live, we too shall live.

*Special prayers and intercessions*

No matter what the devil, the world, or our flesh brings against us, assure us that nothing can take away the sure hope we have in the empty tomb.

- 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.**
- 8 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, 1739–1799, abr. Text: Public domain

***Special Prayers This Week***

- † For Linda Lucht who is recovering from surgery after breaking her arm
- † For Bruce Jackson, whose brother, Russell, passed away on Saturday morning
- † For the family of Doug Tenpas, who passed away. His funeral will be on April 13.
- † For Pastor Proeber who received two calls: to First Lutheran Church in La Crescent, MN (sole pastor) and to Trinity Lutheran Church in Watertown, WI (associate pastor).
- † For the safety of people in Haiti.
- †
- †
- †
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## Connect Card and Offering

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card. If you are interested in learning more about the Bible or how to become a church member, please check the box on your Connect Card. After a few moments, the ushers will come forward to collect the offering. You may place your Connect Card and any offering you brought in the plate as it is passed.

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



## Musical Offering

### Hymn

451 See, What a Morning

Stand

### Prayer

based on Psalm 118

Lord Jesus, you are the stone the builders rejected that has become the cornerstone. We praise you for facing the fury of your enemies undaunted. Because you overcame death itself, we will not die but live, and we will always proclaim your marvelous deeds; for you live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### 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.**

### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

### Hymn

449 This Joyful Eastertide



# News & Announcements

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## Hear about Pastor Proeber's Calls

April 7 | 9:15 AM

During our Family Bible Hour next Sunday, Pastor Proeber will be sharing information about the two calls that he received: to serve as sole pastor to First Lutheran Church in La Crescent, MN and to serve as associate pastor to Trinity Lutheran Church in Watertown. Of course, his third option is to remain as associate pastor at our church. You will be able to ask questions and express your opinions. We will meet in the cafeteria around 9:15 am next Sunday.

## Get to Know Your Church Family

April 14

Connect Groups help you get to know other people as well as to grow in your faith. Spring Connect Groups will begin the week of April 14 and run for six weeks. The groups meet at different times and places. See the Ministry Table to learn who the hosts are, what day and time their group meets, and where they meet. Meetings usually take about 1-1/2 hours, questions from the bulletin are discussed, and there is time for fellowship. We hope you will join a group.



If none of the Connect Groups meets at a day or time that works for you, here are a few other options. These groups are ongoing and welcome new participants:

Men's Bible Study – Tuesdays at 6:45-7:45 am at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop

Women Walking in the Word – Tuesdays at 9:45-11:00 am in the Resource Center

Bible Book Group – Wednesdays at 6:30-8:00 pm in the Resource Center

Men's Small Group – Thursdays at 7:00-7:45 am at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop

## Family Fun Night in April

April 18 | 5:00 PM

Family Fun Night is another opportunity to fellowship with other Christians. People are encouraged to bring games or make use of the gym. You will meet singles, young couples, senior citizens, children, and everything in between. We will serve pizza, but you are welcome to bring snacks or desserts to share. Hope you can attend.

If you are a senior, you have an additional opportunity to meet with others. On Wednesday, April 10 our monthly Senior Social will be held in the Resource Center from 2:00-4:00 pm.



## Our Regular Sunday Schedule

Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sunday School (grades 3K-6<sup>th</sup>)  
and Bible Study at 9:15-10:15 AM



Sunday	7:00 AM	<b>Easter Sunday Worship</b>
	8:00 AM	<b>Easter Breakfast in the gym</b>
	9:30 AM	<b>Easter Sunday Worship</b>
Monday	5:30 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
Tuesday	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Unified Board Meetings
Wednesday	8:55 AM	School Chapel Service
	5:30 PM	Handbell Practice in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
Sunday	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Listening Session in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 3K-6th
	10:30 AM	Worship

## Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 231

## Next Sunday

Theme: The Empty Tomb Fills Our Lives with Proven Peace

Readings: Acts 18:1-11; 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:19-31

## Upcoming Events

- Apr. 10 Senior Social
- Apr. 10 Evening Compliment Service at 6:30
- Apr. 14 Handbell Festival Concert in Weyauwega
- Apr. 14 Spring Connect Groups Begin
- Apr. 18 Family Fun Night
- Apr. 20 LWMS Mission Rally in Schofield





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