

March 31, 2024

He is not here

HE IS

RISEN

Easter Dawn



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

THEME OF THE DAY: Christianity is the only religion that presents the key to disproving itself: if Christ has not been raised our faith would be futile! It's that simple. But Jesus' resurrection proves his claims and ours. After weeks of questions and answers, charges and evidence, He is vindicated, and so are we! Jesus' Easter victory is God's proof and promise of salvation to all who believe.

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE AT EASTER: This candle symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. Its large size symbolizes the mighty Victor over death and sin. Usually located at the Baptismal font, it is lighted at every baptism, for "we are buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4) It is also lighted for Christian funerals to show the close connection between Christ's resurrection and the Christian's resurrection to life eternal, only through Christ.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Keyboard: Luke Dorn

Vocal: Luke & Alli Dorn

Order of Worship



After the ringing of the bells, the pastor removes the veil from the altar cross, reminding us of the funeral shroud gone from Jesus' face Easter morning.

Please stand.

Easter Acclamation & Dialogue

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

M: I will not die, but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

M: The Lord's right hand is majestic in power. The Lord's right hand has shattered the enemy.

C: Death has been swallowed up in victory.

M: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

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

M: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

C: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: God dearly wants us to share in his life and love. He created us for himself, yet we fall short of his perfect holiness. He yearns to be reconciled with us. Let us therefore approach him this Easter morning seeking his pardon for our sins.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. I confess that I stumble in my faith. Sometimes I live and act as though Your Son neither died for my sins nor rose bodily from the grave. Too many times I have neglected your Word and worship.

For these and other offenses, I deserve to be abandoned by you both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my risen Savior, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, did not spare his own son but gave him up into death on the cross to atone for the guilt of all people. Whoever believes in him will not perish but has eternal life! Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the risen Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Hymn: Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

CW 443 sts. 1-4



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness— see what to -
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed when Christ lay
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens— what peace it
 4 Now I will cling for - ev - er to Christ, my



day is done! Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes
 in the tomb; but lo, he now is rout - ed, his
 does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the
 Sav - ior dear. My Lord will leave me nev - er; with



forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was
 boast is turned to gloom. For Christ a - gain is
 joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er
 him I need not fear. He rends death's i - ron



laid where our bed must be made when to the
 free; in glo - rious vic - to - ry he who is
 shake, no foe shall ev - er take the hope which
 chain; he breaks through sin and pain. He shat - ters



realms of light our spir - it wings its flight.
 strong to save has tri - umphed o'er the grave.
 God's own Son in love for me has won.
 hell's dark thrall; I fol - low him through all.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, you made the dawn of this most holy day shine with the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Grant that we who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah foresaw a day when death would be swallowed up forever. A day when God himself would save his people.

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;
⁸he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.

The LORD has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say,
"Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Let Us Rejoice

Psalm 118E

The cantors will sing the verses. The congregation is invited to join in the refrain.

Refrain

This is the day the LORD has made, let us re -
joice and be glad! This is the day the LORD has
made, let us re - rejoice and be glad!

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say: "His mercy endures forever." (Refrain)
- 2 The hand of the LORD has struck with pow'r, his right hand is exalted;
I shall not die, but live anew, declaring the works of the LORD. (Refrain)
- 3 The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone;
the LORD of love and mercy has brought wonder to our eyes. (Refrain)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

The Christian's hope in Christ is not for this life alone, but for an eternity of life with Christ in the kingdom of God.

¹⁹If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

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

¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶"Don't be alarmed," he said. "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.'"

⁸Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Sermon

Based on Mark 16:1-8

"Christ is Risen—He is vindicated, and so are we!"

Please remain seated after the sermon.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Hymn: Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed CW 447 sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5

Cantors will sing verses 1 and 3



1 How can it be, the One who died has borne our
 2 For joy a - wakes as dawn - ing light when Christ's dis -
 3 Where doubt and dark - ness once had been, they saw him



sin through sac - ri - fice, to con - quer ev - 'ry
 ci - ples lift their eyes. A - live he stands, their
 and their hearts be - lieved. But blest are those who



sting of death? Sing, sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 2
 friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is ris - en!
 have not seen, yet sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 4



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -



lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:



"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." v. 3/v. 5

4 Once bound by fear, now bold in faith,
 they preached the truth and pow'r of grace
 and pouring out their lives they gained
 life, life everlasting. (Refrain)

5 The pow'r that raised him from the grave
 now works in us to pow'r'ly save.
 He frees our hearts to live his grace;
 go, tell of his goodness. (Refrain)

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Second Article (Redemption)

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer of the Church

M: 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.

M: 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.

M: 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.

M: 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.

M: 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 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Hymn: This Is the Feast

CW 938 sts. 1, 5

Refrain



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



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

Verses



1 † Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free _____ to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
gun his _____ reign. _____ Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*

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!

Be seated.

Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

Hymn: In Christ Alone

CW 510



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right - eous -
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fier - est drought and storm.
ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of
And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Please stand at the pastor's direction after the distribution.

Response of Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

Psalm 118:1

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: **We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

1 Corinthians 11:26

Easter Prayer

M: 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 faith, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The events and victory of this Easter Day happened for you! Christ is risen and with that he has brought you life and forgiveness; and he gives you purpose, peace, and hope. May these truths guide you and be a blessing to you. Go and live each day in that victorious joy!

C: **Amen**

Blessing

M: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Find the final hymn on the next page.



Hymn: The Tomb Is Empty

CW 453

Cantors will sing verses 1 and 4



1 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and
2 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and
3 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and
4 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and
5 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Go and



see where once the bod - y lay.
hear these words of life and peace:
touch the stone and fold - ed shroud.
meet the ris - en Christ our Lord
serve all peo - ple who long to be free!



Can it be true, be true, that Je - sus
"He is not here, not here. He lives a -
Christ lives in - deed, in - deed. Al - le - lu -
in whom we have, we have our vic - to -
Raise those who sleep, who sleep in tombs of



Christ is raised to life to - day?
gain in all your Gal - i - lees."
ia! Be - liev - ers, shout a - loud.
ry, in whom is life re - stored.
fear, and give them eyes to see!

Refrain



Sing al - le - lu - ia! Sing al - le - lu - ia!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Easter Brunch



Easter Fellowship & Celebration Continues

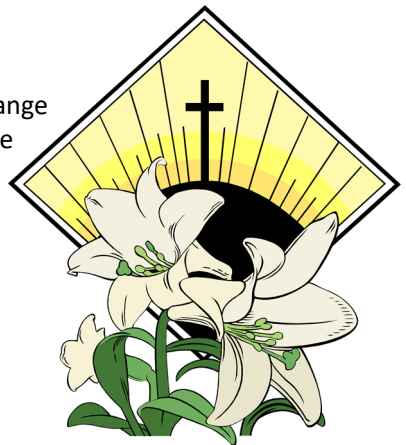
After worship all are invited to enjoy breakfast and fellowship downstairs. Bible study and Sunday JAM for kids will return next Sunday.

Easter Flowers on the Altar are placed in memory of...

Gary Campbell
Gilbert & Rosella Ecker
Tracy & Ella Berdan
Kay Berdan
Duane Palmberg
Luella Jozwiak
John Falck,
Janice & Lloyd Grobe
Paul & Bernice Roth
Connie Sweeney
LeRoy & Nancy Kaminski
Howard & Pearl Elder
Franklin & Verna Gruetz-
macher
Charles & Amanda Dahlke
David Richert
Lyle Doerr
Emma & Wilbert Miller
Sue Galler
John & Arlene Cromien
Tom & Dorothy Gerson
Walter Bremer
George & Adeline Light
Robert & Delores Splieth

Alice Gatzke
Brenda Ross
George Mackler
Merlyn & Arayla Rogge
Burdette & Darlene Vrieze
Richard Kerr,
Maynard Ask
Alfred & Johanna Stoller
Kent Hadrits
Harold Wlk,
Darrold Thompson
Susan Carney
Bill & Lois Polzin
Barbara Lange
Marietta & Harold Lange
Helena & Adolf Lange
Darlene Zolldan,
Douglas Lange
John & Ella Mandars
Schultz Family
Eliana Eudora Shah
Callum Fitzgerald
Faylee Fitzgerald
John Rogotzke

Robert Raasch
Anna Rogotzke
Knute Lewis
Dave Genter
Carl & Emma Bourman
Herb & Catherine Monthie
Alberta Childs
Friends gone too soon



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

For our guests

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together, and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, on the wall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome, too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

