

A watercolor-style illustration of a sunrise or sunset. The sun is a bright yellow circle partially obscured by a thick, horizontal white line. From the sun, several thin, orange and yellow rays extend upwards and outwards. The background is a soft, blended wash of colors ranging from light pink and peach to a deeper orange and red, suggesting a hazy sky.

resurrection  
**REALity**

*We Have a Meaningful  
Message to Share*



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**Third Sunday of Easter**

*Resurrection Reality—*

*We Have a Meaningful Message to Share*

**W**elcome! 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.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Savior Jesus, we rejoice again today in Easter hope and joy. Bless me today through your Word and Sacrament. Amen.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** A platitude is a statement aimed at helping soothe some sort of emotional unease. "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Or "Life is a mystery." While platitudes may be well-intentioned, at best they come off as trite. We have a meaningful message to share—of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power. The reality is we have something important to say to every single person we know. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

**WORSHIP SERIES:** Easter is history. Since Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, we know the reality of his identity and victory. Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. Since Christ has indeed been raised, we know the reality of his promise. The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality.

**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.

***SERVING GOD, SERVING US:***

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe    Piano/Organ: Luke Dorn

Vocalists: Luke Dorn, Abigail Ibisch

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# Order of Worship

*CW Hymnal, Setting Two*



## **Opening Song: Mighty to Save**     *by Reuben Morgan & Ben Fielding*

Ev'rone needs compassion, a love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.  
Ev'rone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.

*Refrain*

Savior, He can move the mountains.  
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.  
Forever, Author of Salvation,  
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow ev'rything I believe in. Now I surrender. (*Refrain*)

Shine Your light and let the whole world see, we're singin'  
For the glory of the risen King, Jesus (x2) (*Refrain*)

*Please stand.*

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

### **Confession**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**M:** Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole

world. 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn: This Is the Feast**

CW 938 sts. 2

*Refrain*



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



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



2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, — bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *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!

**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, 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.**

*Be seated.*

## First Reading

Acts 3:11-20

*Peter healed a man who couldn't walk, drawing a large crowd. Peter used that opportunity to share a meaningful message about the one the people of Jerusalem asked Pilate to crucify.*

<sup>11</sup>While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup>When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup>You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup>By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup>"Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup>But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup>and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

1 John 1:1-2:2

*St. John summarizes the meaningful message we have heard and been called to declare: God is light.*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched— this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. <sup>2</sup>The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup>We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We write this to make our joy complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup>If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

<sup>1</sup>My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. <sup>2</sup>He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

*The risen Savior gives us peace. He also gives us a mission. We are to share the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

<sup>36</sup>While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup>They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

<sup>40</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Be seated.*

## Children's Devotion

### Hymn: Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

CW 459 sts. 1-3, 6



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n a - gain; Christ has bro - ken  
 2 He who gave for us his life, who for us en -  
 3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up -  
 6 Now he bids us tell a - broad how the lost may



death's strong chain. Hark, the an - gels shout for joy,  
 dured the strife, is our Pas - chal Lamb to - day.  
 on the cross lives in glo - ry now on high,  
 be re - stored, how the pen - i - tent for - giv'n,



sing - ing ev - er - more on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 We too sing for joy and say: Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 how we too may en - ter heav'n. Hal - le - lu - jah!

*“Celebrate Our Blessed Fellowship”*

- 1) Our fellowship with the Father and the Son
- 2) Our fellowship with one another

*Please stand after the sermon.*

**THANKSGIVING**

**Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated.*



## Offering



 Connect Card

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.



 Give Online

Please stand.

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.**

**M:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

# Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## 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  $\dagger$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

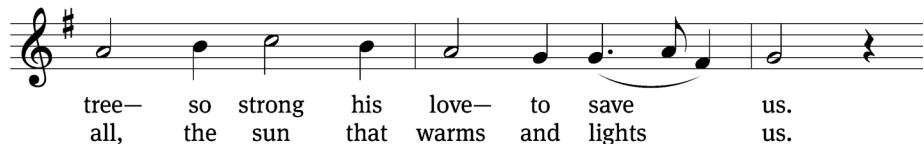
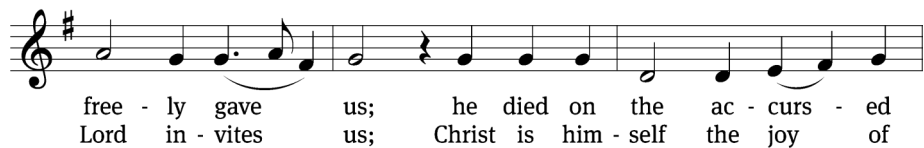
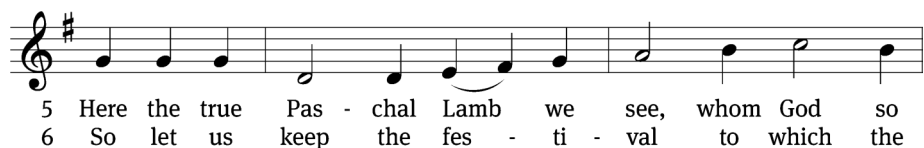
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\dagger$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

# Hymn: Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

CW 440 sts. 5-6



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: Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands CW 440 sts. 1-4, 7



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands for our of -  
 2 No son of man could con - quer death, such ru - in  
 3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came down, his peo - ple  
 4 It was a strange and dread - ful strife when life and  
 7 Then let us feast this Eas - ter Day on Christ, the



fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right hand he  
 sin had wrought us. No in - no - cence was found on  
 to de - liv - er; de - stroy - ing sin, he took the  
 death con - tend - ed. The vic - to - ry re - mained with  
 bread of heav - en; the Word of grace has purged a -



stands and brings us life from heav - en.  
 earth, and there - fore death had brought us  
 crown from death's pale brow for - ev - er.  
 life, the reign of death was end - ed.  
 way the old and e - vil leav - en.



There - fore let us joy - ful be and sing to  
 in - to bond - age from of old and ev - er  
 Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns; an emp - ty  
 Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly saith that death is  
 Christ a - lone our souls will feed; he is our



God right thank - ful - ly loud songs of  
 grew more strong and bold and held us  
 form a - lone re - mains; its sting is  
 swal - lowed up by death; dis - graced, it  
 meat and drink in - deed; faith lives up -



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 as its cap - tive. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lost for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lies de - feat - ed. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 on no oth - er! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*After the distribution please stand at the pastor's direction.*

## **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*

## **Closing Prayer & Blessing**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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 last hymn on the next page.*

## Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story

CW 746 sts. 1-2



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 O won - der - ful re - demp - tion! The price for sin is paid,



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
sal - va - tion is ac - com - plished, my heart is un - a - fraid,



I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;  
for God has raised Christ Je - sus to show the work was done;



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.  
his glo - rious res - ur - rec - tion de - clared the vic - t'ry won!

### *Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

### **Fellowship & Spiritual Growth**

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs

### **For Worship Next Week**

Worship theme: The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding

Bible Readings: Acts 20:28-42, 1 John 4:1-6, John 10:11-18

Hymns: 551, 552, 554, 551

## PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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## *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.**

