

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11th, 2025



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Louis, MO

Pastor Seth Georgson

314-914-6457

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

CW 145

1. Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me.
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.
2. Jesus lives! To him the throne High o'er heav'n and earth is given.
I shall go where he is gone, Live and reign with him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.
3. Jesus lives! For me he died; Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.
4. Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from him shall sever,
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be a sure defense; This shall be my confidence.
5. Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate to life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: "Jesus is my confidence!"

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



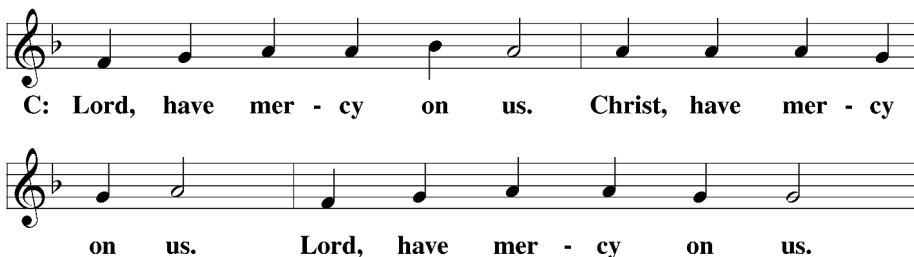
CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory be to God

Gloria in Excelsis



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

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: A - men.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Isaiah 40:25–31

To whom can you compare me as if we were
equals?
says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and see who created these things.

See who brings out their army in great number
and calls them all by name.
Because of his great strength and mighty power,
not one of them is missing.

Why do you speak, O Jacob?
O Israel, why do you say,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and justice for me is ignored by my God”?
Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the eternal God.
He is the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired, and he will not become
weary.
No one can find a limit to his understanding.

He is the one who gives strength to the weak,
and he increases the strength of those who lack
power.
Young men grow tired and become weary.
Even strong men stumble and fall.
But those who wait for the LORD will receive new
strength.
They will lift up their wings and soar like eagles.
They will run and not become weary.
They will walk and not become tired.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 30

CW p.76

Refrain

**At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song;
I sing for joy.**

Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;*
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment*,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night*,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Refrain

To you, O LORD, I called;*
to the Lord I cried for mercy.

Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;*
O LORD, be my help.

You turned my wailing into dancing*,
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- 1 Peter 2:11–20

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and temporary residents in the world, to abstain from the desires of the sinful flesh, which war against your soul. Live an honorable life among the Gentiles so that even though they slander you as evildoers, when they observe your noble deeds, they may glorify God on the day he visits us.

Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the king as the supreme authority or to governors as those who have been sent by him to punish those who do what is wrong and to praise those who do what is right. For this is God's will: that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. Do this as free peo-

ple, and do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but use it as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Slaves, submit to your masters with total respect, not only to those who are good and kind but also to those who are harsh. For this is favorable: if a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly because he is conscious of God. For what credit is it to you if you receive a beating for sinning and patiently endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is favorable with God.

Verse of the Day

Psalm 30:5

M: Alleluia. Weeping comes to stay through the night, but in the morning,
there is rejoicing. Alleluia.



Stand.

Gospel ----- John 16:16-22

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"In a little while you are not going to see me anymore, and again in a little while you will see me, because I am going away to the Father."

Therefore some of his disciples asked one another, "What does he mean when he tells us, 'In a little while you are not going to see me, and again in a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going away to the Father'?" So they kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'?" We don't understand what he's saying."

Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you trying to determine with one another what I meant by say-

ing, 'In a little while you are not going to see me, and again in a little while you will see me'? Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will weep and wail, but the world will rejoice. You will become sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy. A woman giving birth has pain, because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, because of her joy that a person has been born into the world.

"So you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Nicene Creed

C: 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 fully 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.

Hymn of the Day ----- With High Delight Let Us Unite

CW 168

1. With high delight Let us unite
In songs of sweet jubilation.
You pure in heart, Each take your part,
Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free Forever, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's ends
Good news to save ev'ry nation.
2. True God, he first From death has burst
Forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy Shall vanquished lie;
His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be Like victory O'er death and grave,"
Said he, who gave His life for us, life renewing.

3. Let praises ring; Give thanks and bring
To Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed By word and deed To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall his love Give us above, From misery And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.

Sermon ----- John 16:16-22

Our Sorrow Will Turn to Joy

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “**hear our prayer.**”*

Online giving option:

mluther.org/give



*Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.*

- M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- M: How awesome are Your works, O Lord — chiefly the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Show the light of Your honor and great power to those in error’s darkness, that by the Holy Spirit’s work they would submit themselves to Christ’s gracious redemption. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Preserve Your Church, O Lord, from every sorrow and mockery of the enemy. In this little while between Christ’s resurrection and our own, do not let the threats of persecution, loss or discomfort turn us from the joy and confidence of His redemption. Sustain all preachers faithful to their calling, all confessors steadfast in their trials, and all Christians firm in the faith for life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Father in heaven, You have given us a mirror of Your love in the vocation of mothers who nurture, guide and raise their children in all things good. Bless them in their calling. Sustain them through weary and difficult times. Remember in compassion all who are barren, and bring them comfort through the children of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord of all, You have appointed the authorities of this world for our good. Direct their hearts and minds to rule according to Your will. Give us faith in Your heavenly authority, which will not permit the righteous to be moved. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: Father, on the day when this little while ends, we will ask nothing. Now, in every need, we are bold to ask everything in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Mediator. Hear our supplications and intercessions for every need [*especially* _____]. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Give joy in the midst of sorrow here at the Sacrament of the Altar. Grant us repentance, a firm faith and a united confession, that we may have honest fellowship in the blessings of Christ's testament. With consciences thus cleansed from evil and renewed in You, enable us to stand undaunted until the day of visitation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord God, of Your fatherly goodness You allow Your children to come under Your chastening rod to conform us to Your only begotten Son here in suffering on earth and hereafter in glory. Comfort us by Your Holy Spirit in all temptations and afflictions, that we would not despair, but trust continually in Your Son's promise that our trials will endure but a little while and then be followed by eternal joy. Grant that we would overcome all evil in patient hope and at last obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C: It is good and right so to do.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his 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

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, 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 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ----- Like the Golden Sun Ascending

CW 147

1. Like the golden sun ascending,
Breaking through the gloom of night,
On the earth its glory spending
So that darkness takes to flight,
Thus my Jesus from the grave
And death's dismal, dreadful cave
Rose triumphant Easter morning
At the early purple dawning.
2. Thanks to you, O Christ victorious!
Thanks to you, O Lord of life!
Death has now no power o'er us,
You have conquered in the strife.
Thanks because you did arise
And have opened paradise!
None can fully sing the glory
Of the resurrection story.
3. You have died for my transgression;
All my sins on you were laid.
You have won for me salvation;
On the cross my debt was paid.
From the grave I shall arise
And shall meet you in the skies.
Death itself is transitory;
I shall lift my head in glory.
4. Grant me grace, O blessed Savior,
And your Holy Spirit send
That my life and my behavior
May be pleasing to the end,

That I may not fall again
Into death's grim pit and pain,
Whence by grace you have retrieved me
And from which you have relieved me.

5. For the joy your advent gave me,
For your gospel's great reward,
For your baptism which has saved me,
For your supper and your Word,
For your death, the bitter scorn,
For your resurrection morn:
Lord, I thank you and extol you,
And in heav'n I shall behold you.

Hymn ----- At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

ELH 310, music CW 141

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,
Who hath washed us in the tide Flowing from His piercèd side.
Alleluia!
2. Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His Body for the feast-- Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!
3. Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!
4. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, Paschal bread;
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!

5. Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!
6. Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!
7. Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!
8. Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

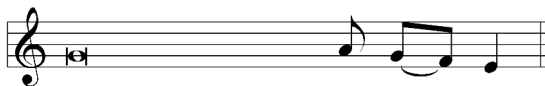
Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

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



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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Cover: "Christ Appearing to the Disciples" by Rembrandt van Rijn, 1656.

Be seated.

Hymn ----- Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CWS 719

1. Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain:

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

2. For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo.
And in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*
3. The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the grave cloths are lying there." *Refrain*
4. "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
5. Christ has arisen; he sets us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. *Refrain*

