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# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Fridley, MN 55432  
763-784-8784

**Pastor:** John Hein

**Organist:** Janelle Hein

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**Church Year:** Easter

**Date:** April 4, 2010

Welcome to our Festival Easter Service. As we reach the glorious climax of the long Lenten and Holy Week season, the mood of our hearts and our worship changes dramatically - from one of somber repentance to one of wonderful spiritual joy and hope! And all because of the Risen Christ. His amazing Resurrection Victory over death and devil brings with His assurance for all who believe in Him - "Because I live, you also will live!" Each Easter we are privileged to celebrate on this earth as we are brought one year closer to the eternal victory fulfillment of our Savior's promise. May true Easter joy be ours by faith, even in the midst of life's many and difficult struggles, so that our lips and lives this Easter Day and evermore reflect our calling and status as Easter victors in Christ. "Thanks be to God Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57).



## † The Order of Easter Worship †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... Psalm 118, TLH p. 148 f.

### The Invocation:

**P:** *We begin this Easter Festival service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C:** [sung] Amen.

**P:** *Our Lord Jesus is risen!*

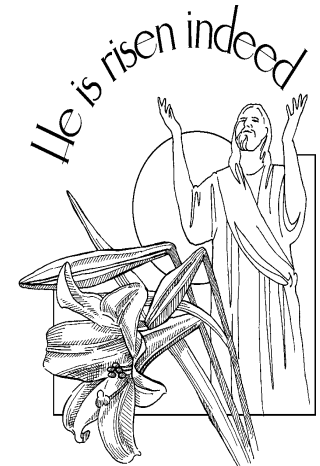
**C:** He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

**S.S. Children's Recitation:** ..... The Resurrection of Jesus – Mark 16:1-8

**S.S. Children & Choir:** ..... Awake My Heart With Gladness

**Opening Hymn:** ..... TLH 199: Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. (Note: Men only on stanza, All on Alleluia)  
Hymns of praise, then, let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. (Note: Women only on stanza, All on Alleluia)  
But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as His love: Alleluia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!



**The Easter Responsory:** ..... Based Upon Romans 1:3-4; Luke 18:31-33;  
Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:17; 15:20, 22-23

**P:** *Today is the day we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection from the Dead.*

**C:** Hallelujah! Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All:** [Sung, TLH 192:1]

Awake, my heart, with gladness, See what today is done;  
Now, after gloom and sadness, Comes forth the glorious Sun.  
My Savior there was laid Where our bed must be made  
When to the realms of light Our spirit wings its flight.

**P:** *The Lord who hung for us upon the Tree:*

**C:** Is now risen from the Grave.

**P:** *But what does this mean?*

**C:** It means that Jesus Christ is the very Son of God.

**P:** *Indeed it does, for it is written: "His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh,*

**C:** *was declared to be the Son of God with power...by the resurrection from the dead."*

All: [Sung, TLH 192:3]

This is a sight that gladdens; What peace it doth impart!  
Now nothing ever saddens the joy within my heart.  
No gloom shall ever shake, No foe shall ever take,  
The hope which God's own Son In love for me hath won.

P: *But what certainty does Jesus' Resurrection give us?*

C: It makes us certain that our sins are forgiven.

P: *It surely does, for it is written: "Christ was delivered up for our offenses,*

C: *and raised again for our justification."*

P: *It is also written: If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile!*

C: You are still in your sins!

All: [Sung, TLH 192:4]

Now hell, its prince, the devil, Of all their pow'r are shorn;  
Now I am safe from evil, And sin I laugh to scorn.  
Grim Death with all his might Cannot my soul affright;  
He is a pow'rless form, Howe'er he rave and storm.

P: *So Jesus has all power over death.*

C: Death can hold Him no more.

P: *Do we need to fear death?*

C: No — for Jesus will raise us up from the dead.

P: *It is also written: But now Christ is risen from the dead,*

C: *and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

P: *For as in Adam all die,*

C: *even so in Christ all shall be made alive.*

P: *But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits,*

C: *afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.*

All: [Sung, TLH 192:6]

Now I will cling forever To Christ, my Savior true;  
My Lord will leave me never, Whate'er He passeth through.  
He rends Death's iron chain, He breaks through sin and pain,  
He shatters hell's dark thrall, — I follow Him through all. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: ..... Isaiah 25:6-9

Epistle Reading: ..... 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

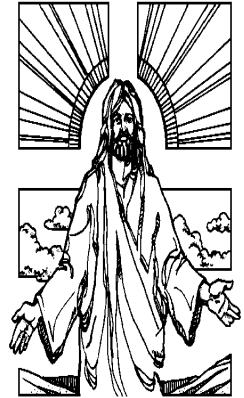
Gospel Reading: ..... John 20:1-9

**Our Easter Creed:..... Based Upon the Apostolic Creed**

In God the Almighty Father we believe,  
Maker of all, from Whom we life receive;  
And in our Lord, Christ Jesus, God's own Son,  
One with the Father, with all believers One.

Conceived by Spirit, born of virgin lowly,  
Was crucified and died for sin, yet ever holy,  
Raised from the dead, Ascended to His throne,  
Christ reigns and will return as Judge alone.

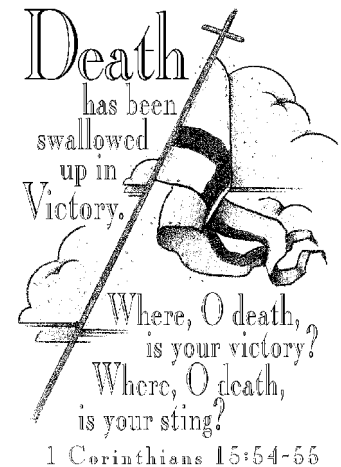
With all the saints, God's Spirit we confess -  
Life-giving Lord, true Source of holiness,  
His Church He builds with sin-forgiving Word,  
Until we rise, in heaven to praise our Lord. Amen.



**Hymn:..... TLH 210: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done**

Introduction: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the Victor's triumph won;  
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!
2. Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,  
And Jesus hath His foes dispersed;  
Let shouts of praise and Joy outburst. Alleluia!
3. On the third morn He rose again  
Glorious in majesty to reign;  
Oh, let us swell the Joyful strain! Alleluia!
4. He closed the yawning gates of hell;  
The bars from heaven's high portals fell.  
Let songs of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!
5. Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!



**Easter Sermon:..... 2 Timothy 1:9-10**

(9) [God] has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, (10) but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ...

**The Road Sign Beyond Calvary:  
Death Has Come to a Dead End!**



CDS Children: ..... TLH 201: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

Hymn: ..... TLH 193: Christ the Lord is Risen Today

1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n today," Sons of men and angels say.  
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won.  
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo, He sets in blood no more.
3. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened Paradise.
4. [Men only] Lives again our glorious King; Where, O Death, is now thy sting?  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O Grave?
5. [Women only] Soar we now where Christ has led, Following our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
6. Hail the Lord on earth and heaven! Praise to Thee by both be given!  
Thee we greet triumphant now: Hail, the Resurrection Thou!

Offering:

Easter Prayer:

- P: *Our Father who art in heaven ...*
- C: Truly You are our Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who — on the day of His resurrection — declared His ascension to "my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."
- P: *Hallowed be Thy name ...*
- C: Enable us to honor You with a faithful and bold witness to our risen Lord, and a new life worthy of His Gospel.
- P: *Thy kingdom come ...*
- C: Keep us under Your good and gracious rule through that Spirit by which we live before You now and shall live forever.
- P: *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven ...*
- C: O Father, help us to submit our lives to Your gracious will, even as Jesus put His life into Your hands.
- P: *Give us this day our daily bread ...*
- C: Free us from exaggerated concern and anxiety for our physical welfare, knowing that You are the Provider of our needs.
- P: *And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us ...*
- C: Move us to be gracious and forgiving to those who have hurt us, even as You — for Christ's sake — have forgiven us, certifying our justification by His resurrection.
- P: *And lead us not into temptation ...*



C: From the heav'n within and the temptations around us, deliver and keep us, good Lord.

P: *But deliver us from evil ...*

C: Fulfill Thy promises to preserve us from all evil, and keep us from despair in the midst of all trouble.

ALL: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.  
Amen. Amen. Yes, Yes, it shall be so.

The Benediction: ..... Based Upon Philippians 3:10-11

P: *Now as you are found in Christ, may you know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; that you may attain to the resurrection from the dead. The LORD bless and keep you ...*

C: [sung] Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn: ..... TLH 198: He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord



1. He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;  
He opened death's prison, the Incarnate Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song,  
And, earth, sea, and mountain, the paean prolong.
2. The Foe was triumphant when on Calvary  
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,  
For Jesus was slain, Whom the evil ones fear.
3. But short was their triumph, the Savior arose,  
And Death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes;  
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high.  
He lives, yea, He lives, and will nevermore die.
4. Oh, where is thy sting, Death? We fear thee no more;  
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.  
For all our transgressions His blood doth atone;  
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.
5. Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;  
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.  
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,  
Who sitteth in glory and ever shall reign. Amen.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful,  
Let earth its song begin,  
The round world keep high in triumph,  
And all that is therein.  
He is risen! He is risen! Christ is risen!  
Our joy shall have no end. WS 730:1

# † The Announcements †

♦ **Welcome:** We welcome our visitors on this most joyous of Christian holidays. Please sign our guest register located by the entrance of the church. You are certainly welcome to talk with our Pastor to learn more about Grace Lutheran and what Scripture teaches. Come again!

♦ **Easter Blessings:** The Hein family would like to extend to the congregation a hearty thanks for all the support you have shown for the Gospel ministry. We enjoy the companionship and the fellowship we share with you in the risen Christ. May the Lord of Life grant you all a blessed Easter Day!



♦ **Easter Thanks:** Thanks to all those who contributed to the gathering of Easter lilies at the front of the church. Another thanks to all who helped make the breakfast a special occasion. These gestures are those things that add to making the Easter service a special moment of worship.

♦ **Communion:** Will be next week due to Easter falling on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.

♦ **Among Us:** Karen Auel's mother, Ethel Braaten, passed away on Good Friday evening. May the Lord comfort Karen with the resurrection news!

♦ **Updated Directory Info.:** For Dan & Barb Fleischer - Dan's Cell: 651-955-2293; Barb's cell: 651-955-2294; home phone: 651-340-9231

♦ **2010 Yearbook:** The new yearbook (w/ the annual directory) has been published. Some hard copies are available

♦ **CLC History Book:** Those who pre-ordered a CLC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book can pick it up in the fellowship hall. If you did not order one, but would like to see it and order now, please speak to Jackie Radichel today. There are also ILC Tour Choir tapes available for \$14. They will be available by the Anniversary books.

♦ **ILHS Visitors Day:** Visitors Day for Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI, is slated for April 23. This lasts the entire day as there are activities scheduled to familiarize students with the campus, classes, and activities. The end of the day will be capped off with the 7:30 pm performance of the ILC musical, "The Wizard of Oz." Current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to attend. Please speak with Pastor Hein if interested.

♦ **Installation @ Sleepy Eye:** Grace has been invited to the installation of Pastor Eric Libby as pastor of the joint parish of Grace of Sleepy Eye and Faith of New Ulm. The day is Sunday -- April 11 - - at 4:00p.m. The location is Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye. A pot-luck dinner will follow in the fellowship hall of Grace.

♦ **Teacher Call Meeting:** Last week the Voters accepted the resignation of Mr. Ryan Libby and granted him a peaceful release from his call with thanks for his years of service here at Grace. Mr. Libby wrote the following letter which was shared with the congregation recently:

Dear Grace Lutheran, After prayerful consideration, I have been led to resign my call as principal and teacher of Grace Lutheran School. I thank the Lord for the countless blessings He has showered upon me over the last six years, especially the opportunity to work along side our faculty, church members, parents, and students, past and present, all of whom I will miss very much, and will remember always. I share the conviction that the work which the congregations of our church body are carrying on in their Christian Day schools is a blessed and eternally important work. May, therefore, the Lord of the Church soon provide you with another shepherd for the children of your congregation and continue showering Grace Lutheran School with the countless blessings as He continues to Shepherd her according to His will. In Christ, Ryan Libby

The Voters then proceeded with a call meeting. Through the prayers of the assembly, the Holy Spirit led Grace to extend a call to Teacher Sara Pfeiffer of St. Stephen in Mountain View, CA. Sara received the call materials and wrote the following:

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I have received your call to Grace Lutheran School to teach and serve as principal. I will be praying and considering the call to teach your lambs, and would ask for your prayers as well. I rejoice in the assurance that the Risen Lord will do what is best for His Church! In Christ, Sara Pfeiffer

♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #26, Sacrament of the Altar.

<b>Last Week's Stats:</b> Mar. 28, 2010					
Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,329.50	CLC:	\$1,761.00	
Fri. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,241.00	CLC:	\$331.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,015.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+2,555.50	CLC:	+1,132.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$42,477.58	CLC:	\$12,175.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	39,195.00	CLC:	12,480.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+3,282.58	CLC:	-305.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	41.00	Tuition:	67.00	
GLC Other:	15.00	MDF:	15.00	Kinship:	165.00
ILC Student Aid:	4.00	ILC Bldg.	51.00	IIF: 15.00	CEF: 17.00

## **ONLY THE WORD, PLEASE!**

It was reported this week that a fun and games church in Corpus Christi enticed people to its Easter gathering with a give away of up to \$4,000,000 in gifts. They gave away everything from 16 cars to flat screen TVs to ipods to furniture. Apparently these were donated by people who attend Bay Area Fellowship (BAF), as well as by local merchants. This is the ultimate church growth exercise, albeit on a grander scale than the church growth practices we generally see. The fact is that publicity stunts are a mockery of Christ and the gospel. That this stunt is played at all is bad enough, but that it should be pulled on Easter to try to attract people manifests a deep spiritual bankruptcy.

Of course the leader of this fellowship gives it a spiritual twist. He said that the intent is to draw people in with the intent to give them a better gift, the free gift of eternal life. The context is different, but the sense is the same as when the rich man tried to talk "Father Abraham" into sending Lazarus to his brothers on earth lest they perish in hell. He was told, "If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead" (Luke 16:31). If the power of Christ's love manifest in the resurrection from the dead is not strong enough to draw people neither will they be drawn to Christ or saved from hell by a Lexus or a bag of groceries. Gimmicks and stunts cheapen the gospel!

Even in our own churches probably less than half of the people who have signed the membership roles after due instruction in the Word use the privilege and opportunity to hear the Word on a given Sunday, or receive the sacrament regularly. As we care for their souls we will ply them with the Word of God, not gimmicks or stunts, or even fine choirs, comfortable pews, or personality. To try to attract people into the kingdom of God, or sustain them in it through gimmicks suggests that God's Word is not enough—that the Spirit somehow needs help.

Our Lord commissioned the church to preach the Gospel to every creature, "baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20). Teaching all things includes teaching the law-- the law that exposes sin and condemns the sinner. Unless the sinner sees his need, he cannot and will not appreciate the essence of Christian teaching, which is the proclamation of eternal salvation through faith in Christ, the Son of God. Among our own, negligent worship or use of sacrament suggests that the eternal is not as important as the temporal. Such people live dangerously!

Our Lord Jesus Christ bore our sin, and suffered the punishment for our sin upon the cross. By His blood the sin of mankind is washed away. That Jesus satisfied the Father's will and has won for us eternal life—and thus removed the terrifying fear of death—was affirmed by His resurrection from the dead. Saved are all who believe it! The love of Christ is not a "feel-good" gimmick. It is substance of our hope and the assurance of life with our Lord in glory!

"Heavenly Father, preserve us in the Word, and by the Word. Grant us courage to preach the Word faithfully, and the desire to hear it often and gladly. Amen."

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (4/4/2010)

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

*Organist:* **Janelle Hein** *Elder:* **Frank Radichel**  
*Ushers:* **Pat Paplow, Gerald Anderson, Dan Degnan, Ryan Oman, Brandon Paplow, Andrew Rosendahl**  
*Counting Team 1:* **Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow**  
*Hospitality Team 1:* **Bye**  
*Church Cleaners:* **E & L Wales**

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

*Ushers:* **Roger Ochsner, Don Dahlin, Jeremiah Boe, Bob Maki, Joel Stifter, Arnold Gehrls**  
*Counting Team 2:* **Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales**  
*Hospitality Team 2:* **Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Peter Fleischer; Jeff & Sarah Radichel, Jenny Kleifgen**  
*Church Cleaners:* **E & L Wales**

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 7:30 am – Easter Breakfast  
9:00 am – Easter Festival Worship Service

**Tue., Apr. 6:** Grace and ILC Resume Classes

**Wed., Apr. 7:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

**Sun., Apr. 11:** 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Easter 2)  
11:15 am – Hospitality  
12:00 pm – Council Meeting

**Wed., Apr. 14:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes

**Sun., Apr. 18:** 11:30 am – Quarterly Voters Meeting and Dorcas Guild

**Fri., Apr. 23:** Immanuel Lutheran H.S. Visitors' Day  
7:30 pm – ILC Musical "The Wizard of Oz"

**Sat., Apr. 24:** 9:00 am – Work Day @ Grace  
7:30 pm – ILC Musical "The Wizard of Oz"

**Wed., May 12:** 7:30 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

**Thu., May 13:** 7:00 pm – Ascension Worship Service

**Sun., May 16:** 10:00 am – Worship Service (CLC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**Thu., May 20:** 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program

**Fri., May 21:** Last Day of School @ Grace and ILC  
3:00 pm – ILC Class Day; 7:30 pm – Spring Concert

**Sat., May 22:** 10:00 am – ILC Graduation

**Sun., May 23:** Confirmation Sunday

**Sun. May 30:** Summer Schedule Begins (9 am Worship)

# SEE — HE'S LIVING!

HE'S  
ALIVE!

HALLELUJAH! CHRIST IS RISEN  
FROM THE GRAVE, DEATH'S UGLY PRISON.  
'TIS A FACT FOR ALL WHO LISTEN  
TO THE ANGEL SENT FROM HEAVEN.

CAREFUL, SATAN IS MISLEADING:  
CLAIMS DISCIPLES ARE BUT DREAMING —  
THAT THE SEPULCHRE THAT MORNING  
COULDN'T BE EMPTY. HEED THIS WARNING!

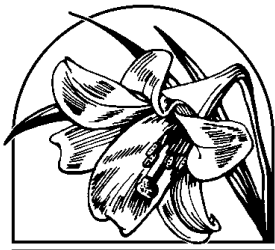
CHRIST FORETOLD HIS RESURRECTION  
FROM HIS DEATH BY CRUCIFIXION.  
THUS HE'D WORK OUT MAN'S REDEMPTION,  
SEALING RECONCILIATION.

DID HE DIE? BEHOLD THE PASSION  
FROM THE GARDEN TO THE MOUNTAIN!  
SCRIBES AND PRIESTS, YEA, HEROD, PILATE,  
HIS OWN PEOPLE, WITNESS TO IT!

BURIED TOO, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT:  
JOSEPH'S TOMB — THE SOLDIERS SEALED IT.  
PILATE SET THE GUARD THEY ASKED FOR.  
NO FOUL PLAY WOULD OPEN *THIS* DOOR!



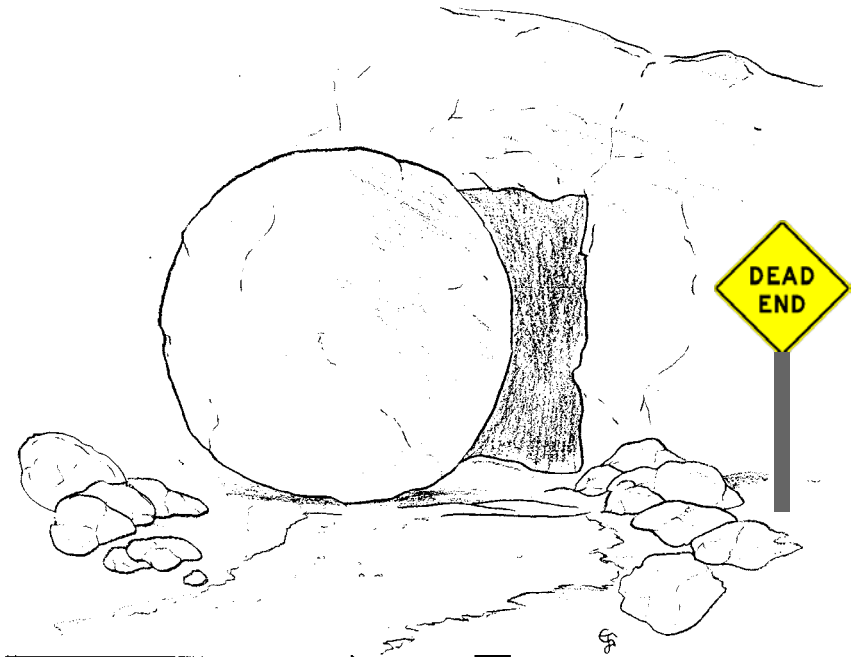
AFTER THREE DAYS THEN IT HAPPENED:  
SEE THE STONE, THE TOMB — IT'S OPENED!  
NOTHING THERE BUT LINENS FOLDED,  
ANGELS TOO, WHO THEN EXPOUNDED:



"HE WAS DEAD, BUT SEE — HE'S LIVING!  
HE'S NOT HERE!" NOW GO FORTH TELLING  
ALL THE WORLD WHICH NEEDS FORGIVING:  
TRUST IN CHRIST — HE'S DEATH'S UNDOING!

Rev. Paul Fleischer (Lutheran Spokesman, April 1985)

# Grace Lutheran Church



Road Signs to Calvary

† Easter 2010 †