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† Today At Grace †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Ed Lentz

Ushers: Mike Dick, Larry Brandt, Roger Brandt, Nick Duehlmeier, Dale Enns,
Lynn Sandhoefner

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow;
Michael Ude

Hospitality Team 6: Bye

Church Cleaners: B. Rust

School: Hein

† Next Week At Grace †

Ushers: Mike Dick, Larry Brandt, Roger Brandt, Nick Duehlmeier, Dale Enns,
Lynn Sandhoefner

Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn
Sandhoefner

Hospitality Team 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner

Church Cleaners: Nelson & Kitzman School: Maki

† Our Schedule †

Today: 7:30 am – Easter Breakfast
Bible Class or Sunday School Recessed
9:00 am – Easter Worship

Tue., Apr. 26 School Resumes from Easter Break

Wed., Apr. 27: 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Sun., May 1: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
11:15 am – Hospitality; 12:00 pm – Council Meeting

May 4-5: CLC Coordinating Council Meeting @ Eau Claire, WI

Wed., May 11: 7:30 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

Fri., May 13: Field Day at Berea in Inver Grove Hts., MN

Fri., May 20: 3:00 pm – ILC Class Day; 7:30 pm – ILC Spring Concert

Sat., May 21: 10:00 am – ILC Graduation Service

Sun., May 22: 9:00 am – Confirmation Examination; 10:00 am – Worship with Confirmation

Thu., May 26: 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program

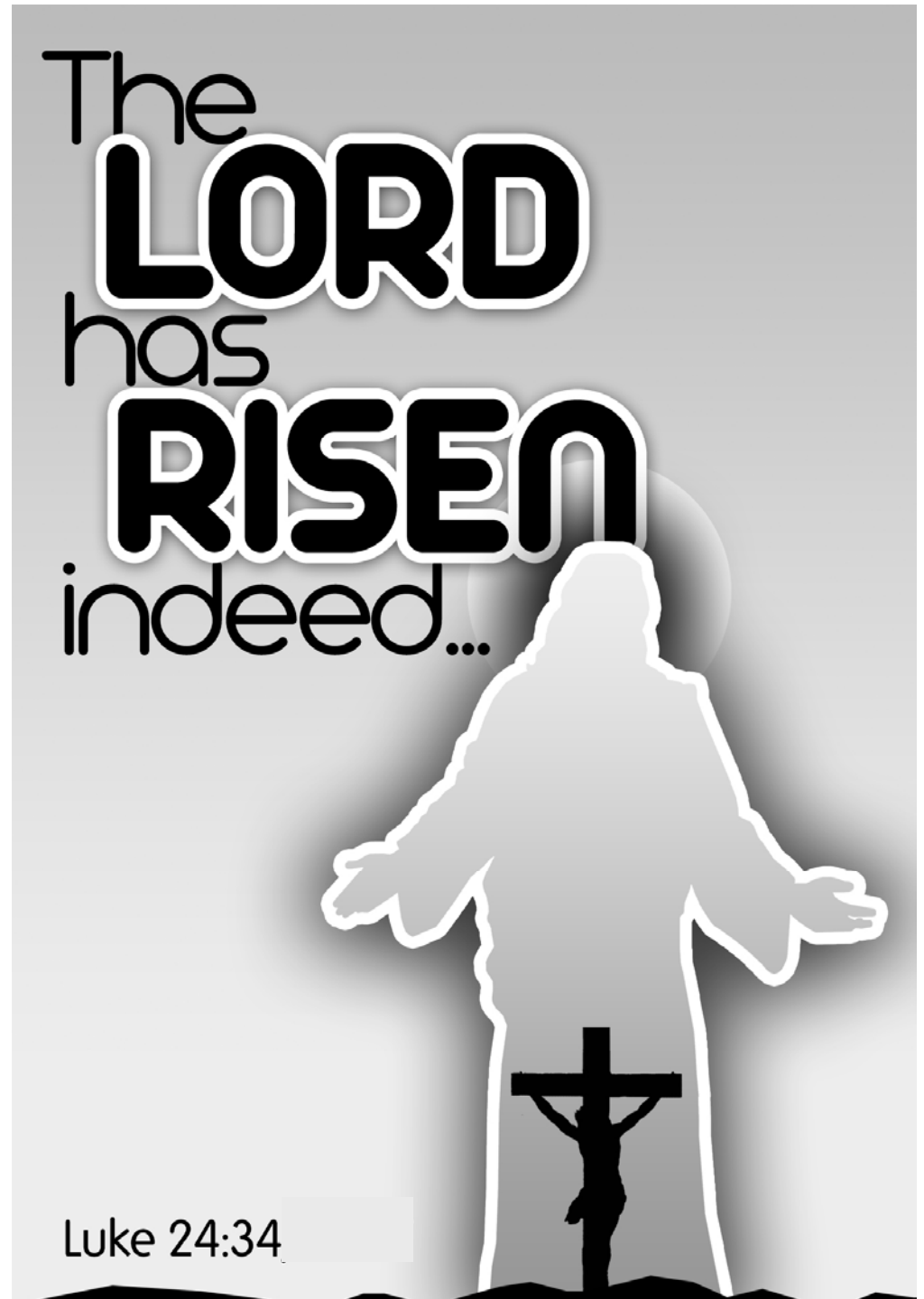
Fri., May 27: Last Day of School at Grace

Sun., May 29: Summer Schedule Begins (9 am Worship)

Thu., June 2: 7:00 pm – Ascension Worship Service

Sun., June 12: 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference at Sleepy Eye, MN

June 21-23: CLC Pastoral Conference @ Eau Claire, WI





GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org
Email: jphein@clclutheran.com
763-784-8784

Pastor: John Hein
School Phone: 763-784-6340
Church Year: Easter

Organists: Sue Nelson
Grades: Kindergarten-8th
Date: April 24, 2011

Welcome to all our Easter worshippers as we rejoice in the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, from the dead! Having conquered sin and death, all our doubts about our salvation are erased through Him. May this truth give you the conviction of Holy Spirit-given faith!

† The Order of Easter Worship †

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

Entrance:

*P: We begin our Easter Festival service in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
He is risen!*

C: He is risen indeed!

Children's Recitation:..... *Mark 16:1-8: The Resurrection Account*

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary *the mother* of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first *day* of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples; and Peter; that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain" (1 Corinthians 15:13-14).

Paul conceded that if there was no resurrection of those who died in Christ then Christ was not risen; Paul would have been a miserable liar spinning false hope, and those to whom he preached would have been duped! But they should not fear. Paul could recount many instances where the risen Christ was manifest before His ascension into heaven. Paul could offer personal witness in that "last of all, he was seen of me also," (1 Corinthians 15:8). Paul had an encounter with the risen Lord on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:5, Acts 22:7-9). Paul affirms without fear of contradiction—and his word speaks to the Church through the ages, "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

Consequently, in the Apostolic Creed the Church confesses, "I believe in Jesus Christ," Who "suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead ... I believe in ... the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen." Our Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled the purpose for which He came into the world! What do they who deny Christ, His person and His work or who secularize the message of Easter—what do they celebrate at Easter?

Dear fellow redeemed of God, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). As Jesus rose on the first day of the week, so every first day worship service is a celebration of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, as well as confident confession that as we believe in Him and confess Him before the world, we too shall pass through the veil of the shadow of death to the brightness of heavenly glory. "And so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

Jesus, my Redeemer, lives
I, too, unto life shall waken.
Endless joy my Savior gives;
Shall my courage, then, be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the Head
Rise and leave His members dead?



As Christ is risen from the dead, "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live" (John 5:25).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 4/24/2011



CHRIST IS RISEN! HALLELUJAH!

“And the angel answered and said unto the women, ‘*Fear not ye...* He is not here for He is risen as He said’” (Matthew 28: 5-6).

As we understand the message of Lent and penitently confess our sin, we grieve that our sin cost the Lord His life-blood. However, as we understand the purpose for which Jesus came into the world, penitent sinners do not so much grieve at what our sin cost Jesus but with grateful hearts thank Him that He bore our sin in His own body.

Yes, we thank the Lord that He willingly bore our sin and without complaining suffered the consequence—the pain, the anguish, the rejection of His Father that elicited from Him the plaintive cry, “My God, why have you forsaken Me”? (Matthew 27:46), and finally death. We thank Him for we know that without His death there would have been no resurrection from the dead. We would have no future after death!

As without His death, so without His resurrection from the dead Jesus’ purpose for coming into the world would not have been served. But as He rose from the dead according to the Scriptures, His resurrection proves that He did fulfill His purpose for all. Nevertheless for much of humanity, because of its unbelief, it is as though His purpose was not fulfilled. What a tragedy!

Unlike those for whom Easter is nothing more than a secular celebration and unlike those who in a largely apostate church have reinterpreted the message of Easter *Christ believers rejoice that according to prophecy and promise our Lord Jesus is risen from the dead.* He fulfilled His purpose! The angelic message of Christmas, “*Fear not ... For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord*” (Luke 2:10-11), is echoed in “*Fear not ye ... He is not here for He is risen as He said.*” Rejoice then, ye penitent, and fear not, for as surely as God is, and as surely as His Word is truth and cannot be broken, Jesus is risen from the dead! He has restored life. We have a future!

In spite of the indisputable evidence given through visible sightings and personal experiences with the risen Christ, as well as the evidence manifest in the renewed life and hope of the Church, there were in Corinth as there are today false teachers and purveyors of doubt who denied the basic fact of Christian history. As they denied the physical resurrection of Christ from the dead, they attempted to plant into troubled hearts the seed of doubt concerning the resurrection of the dead. In response Paul declared, “But if there be no resurrection of the dead,

“He has risen
from the dead ...”

Matthew 28:7, NIV



Opening Hymn:..... TLH 191: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!*

Note: Everyone sings unless noted otherwise.

1. Christ the Lord is ris’n today; Alleluia!
Christians, haste your vows to pay; Alleluia!
Offer ye your praises meet Alleluia!
At the Paschal Victim’s feet. Alleluia!

2. For the sheep the Lamb hath bled,
Sinless in the sinners’ stead.
“Christ is ris’n” today we cry;
Now He lives no more to die.

4. *[Note: Women only]*
Christians, on this happy day
Haste with joy your vows to pay.
“Christ is ris’n,” today we cry;
Now He lives no more to die.

6. Hail, eternal Hope on high!
Hail, Thou King of victory!
Hail, Thou Prince of Life adored!
Help and save us, gracious Lord.

3. Christ, the Victim undefiled,
God and man hath reconciled.
While in strange and awefull strife
Met together Death and Life.

5. *[Note: Men only]*
Christ, who once for sinners bled,
Now the First-born from the dead,
Throned in endless might and power,
Lives and reigns forevermore.

Responsory: With TLH 198: *He’s Risen, He’s Risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord*

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you!

P: Christ being raised from the dead, dies no more:

C: Death has no more dominion over Him.

P: In that He lives, He lives unto God:

C: Christ was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification.

P: The Lord is risen from the grave. Hallelujah!

C: Who hung for us upon the tree. Hallelujah!

P: This is the day which the Lord has made. Hallelujah!

C: We will rejoice and be glad in it. Hallelujah!

P: The Lord is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

SING: 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.

Confession of Sins:Adapted from the 5th Petition & the 2nd Article

P: Let us confess our sins before the Lord God. With what such words does Jesus teach us to pray in the Lord's Prayer?

C: Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P: What does this mean?

C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or deny our prayer because of them. We are not worthy of things for which we are asking, neither have we deserved them. However, we ask that our Father would by His grace give us what we ask; even though we sin often every day and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. We, too, will from our hearts gladly forgive and do good to all those who sin against us.

**SING: 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.**

P: I therefore ask each of you, do you believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?

C: I do so believe. I believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

**SING: 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.**

P: Do promise to amend your sinful life?

C: Yes, with the help of God, that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

P: Be it unto you as you believe. And now, according to the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, and in His place, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Rejoice in our living God!

**SING: 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 does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.**

† 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 we believe Scripture teaches. We cordially invite you to come again, and please let us know how we may provide spiritual ministry to you!
- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **Easter Greeting:** As we meet the various challenges in life, isn't it wonderful to know we have a living Savior?! His life is nothing for us to doubt. We see the evidence of His grace every day. It's just that we often take it for granted or else fail to take note of it. That's why the message of the Resurrection fills our hearts with hope. Jesus brings life and immortality to light through the Gospel. We have nothing to fear nor doubt with Him as our Lord! Sin and death are conquered! On this festival Easter day the Hein family would like to express their Easter greetings to all of you. It is a blessed treat to be united with fellow Christians who hold onto this precious truth and who enjoy hearing it proclaimed in our midst. May you have a blessed Easter season! - Pastor, Janelle, Christina, Abbie, Emily, David, Julianna, and Daniel.
- ♦ **In Our Midst:** Pat Wyman had hip surgery this past Thursday at Unity. She has been making a speedy recovery and is expected to be released today. May the Lord bring her healing.
- ♦ **The Branches:** It's time to renew your subscription. If you aren't a current subscriber, you'll find a complimentary copy in your bulletin mail box. Please consider subscribing. Subscription cost is paid by Grace. Sign up sheet for new and renewal subscriptions is by the guest book. Please consult Norma Rust regarding any questions.
- ♦ **Youth Conference 2011:** This year's Youth Conference will be held August 2-6, at a retreat center in Ellington, MO (about 2½ hours south of St. Louis). It is for young people who have completed grade 8 through the second year of college. The cost is \$275, plus transportation. Financial aid is available. Speakers and organizers are from a number of CLC congregations. A bus will be available from Mankato. The conference will feature timely Christian topics, fellowship, and plenty of outdoor activities. Brochures and registration forms are available on the table in our church narthex, or see the Conference website online at: www.youthconference.info. The deadline for registrations is June 15 (late registration by July 15, at additional cost).
- ♦ **Arise and Shine Retreat:** A retreat to strengthen and encourage those in their 20's and 30's. Thursday June 9th - Sunday June 12th. Camp JIM in Pillager, MN (about 1 hour north of St. Cloud). Registration is open! 2011 info has been updated at www.ariseandshineretreat.com. This year's theme is "The Struggle between Fear and Faith" based on Mark 9:24, "Lord, I believe, help my unbelief!" To inquire about a scholarship, please email Alana at alanaahrens@yahoo.com.
- ♦ **CLC News:** Pastor Kevin McKenney of in Cambridge, WI, has been battling MS the past few years. Some various immune system problems have caused a setback. He was hospitalized last weekend. A recent report is posted on the bulletin board. † Pastor Paul Naumann of Ascension in Tacoma, WA, has received the call to Trinity in Spokane, WA. † Teacher Kirsten Gullerud of Holy Cross in Phoenix, AZ, has received the call to teach lower grades at Immanuel in Winter Haven, FL.

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. [Note: Men Only]
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. [Note: Women 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. 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 of earth and heaven!
Praise to Thee by both be given!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the Resurrection Thou! |

Offering, Easter Prayer, Lord's Prayer, Benediction:

Hymn: WS 732, st. 1-2, 4: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

- 1. Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**
- 2. Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**
- 4. Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly bless-ed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**



First Reading: John 20:1-9, 19-23

(1) Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. (2) Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." (3) Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. (4) So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. (5) And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. (6) Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, (7) and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. (8) Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. (9) For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. ... (19) Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." (20) When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. (21) So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." (22) And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. (23) "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained."

Day School Children: *We Welcome Glad Easter*

1. We welcome glad Easter when Jesus arose And won a great victory over His foes.
Then raise your glad voices, you children and sing. Bring sweet Easter praises to Jesus, our King.
2. And tell how three Marys came early that day, And there at the tomb found the stone rolled away.
And sing of the angel who said: "Do not fear! Your Savior is risen again; He is not here!"
3. So think of the promise which Jesus did give, That all who believe in Him also shall live.
Then raise your glad voices, you children, and sing. Bring sweet Easter praises to Jesus, our King.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-39

(31) What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can* be against us? (32) He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (33) Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. (34) Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. (35) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (36) As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." (37) Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. (38) For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, (39) nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Choir: *Thine is the Glory*

Note: The congregation is asked to join in the third stanza and final refrain.

1. Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son
Endless is the vict'ry
Thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raimant
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes
Where Thy body lay. (Refrain)
2. Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets thee,
Scatters fear and gloom;
Let us all with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth;
Death has lost its sting! (Refrain)

**3. No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee; Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy Home above. (Refrain)**

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won!

Confession of Faith:..... *Easter Creed*

I believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, Lord of lords and Savior of the fallen world. I believe that He is the Word made flesh, Who came to earth to redeem all sinners. He was born under the Law, to fulfill all of God's commandments on my behalf. He was crucified at the hands of sinful men, and endured all the punishment that I and all sinners deserved, to fully satisfy the justice of God. He died and was buried.

I believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead, as the prophets foretold and as He himself promised. Proved by the inspired Scriptures and by many eyewitnesses, Jesus' resurrection shows that He is God's Son, that His mission of salvation is complete, and that He has triumphed over death, our last great enemy.

With this victory, Christ has become our forerunner, the first-fruits of all who sleep in Him. Because He rose, I and all who trust in His redeeming work shall rise on the Last Day. Because He lives, I too shall live. For He has promised me: "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." Amen.



Hymn: *TLH 208: Ye Sons & Daughters of the King*

2. On that first morning of the week,
Before the day began to break,
The Marys went their Lord to seek:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. An angel bade their sorrow flee,
For thus he spake unto the three:
"Your Lord is gone to Galilee":
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. That night the Apostles met in fear,
Amidst them came their Lord most dear
And said: "Peace be unto you here":
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
5. When Thomas afterwards had heard
That Jesus had fulfilled His word,
He doubted if it were the Lord:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
6. "Thomas, behold My side," saith He,
"My hands, My feet, My body, see;
"And doubt not, but believe in Me":
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
7. No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon: *John 20:24-31*

(24) Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. (25) The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." (26) And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" (27) Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." (28) And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" (29) Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed." (30) And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; (31) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. (*NKJV™*)

**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN
AND YET HAVE BELIEVED**

Sunday School Children:..... *TLH 208: Ye Sons & Daughters of the King*

1. Ye sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave hath lost its sting:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
8. Blessed are they that have not seen
And yet whose faith hath constant been,
In Iife eternal they shall reign:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
9. On this most holy day of days
To God your hearts and voices raise
In laud and jubilee and praise:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
10. And we with holy Church unite,
As evermore is just and right,
In glory to the King of light:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!