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GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH EASTER 2013







GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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763-784-8784

Pastor: John Hein

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Church Year: Easter

Organists: Sue Nelson **Grades:** Kindergarten-8th

Date: March 31, 2013

† The Order of Easter Worship †

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.

Children's Hymn:WS 733: This Joyful Easter Tide

1. This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow! My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison, Our faith had been in vain:

But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;

But now is Christ arisen.

2. Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river; Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver. <u>Refrain</u>

3. My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number. Refrain



Hymn: TLH 203: Morning Breaks Upon the Tomb

- 1. Morning breaks upon the tomb; Jesus scatters all its gloom.

 Day of triumph through the skies; See the glorious Savior rise.
- 2. Ye who are of death afraid Triumph in the scattered shade.

 Drive your anxious cares away; See the place where Jesus lay.
- 3. Christians, dry your flowing tears Chase your unbelieving fears; Look on His deserted grave, Doubt no more His power to save.

Responsory: With TLH 202: Welcome, Happy Morning

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you!
- P: The Lord is risen!
- C: He is risen indeed!
- P: The right hand of God has triumphed!
- C: The right hand of God is exalted!
- P: Because of the Lord's victory, I will not die.
- C: Instead I will live and proclaim what God has done. ψ P: The Lord has chastened me severely, but has not given me over to death.
- C: Open to me the gates of righteousness. I will go in and give thanks to God.
- P: This is the gate of God.
- C: The righteous shall enter through it.
- P: I thank You, God, that You have answered me and have my salvation.
- C: The stone which the builders rejected has turned out to be the most important of all.
- P: This is the Lord's doing;
- C: And it is marvelous in our eyes!

SING: "Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say; Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"
Lo, the Dead is living, God forevermore!
Him, their true Creator, all His works adore.
"Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say; Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"

Maker and Redeemer, Life and Health of all, Thou from heaven beholding human nature's fall, Of the Father's Godhead, true and only Son. Manhood to deliver manhood didst put on. "Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say; Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"

- Confession of Sins: With TLH 202: Welcome, Happy Morning
 - P: God of love, like the first witnesses of the resurrection, we too come to the empty tomb with a variety of responses. We hear the good news that Jesus has risen, but so often the evidence for this is difficult to detect in our lives.
 - C: Forgive us when we fail to make the risen Christ evident through our words, our actions, and our lives.
 - P: For so many people, the only good news of this weekend is that it provides the opportunity for a holiday in pleasant spring weather.
 - C: Forgive us when we consider this time of worship as an interruption to our planned weekend activities.
 - P: As we come to the empty tomb seeking forgiveness for all our faults and shortcomings, help us to re-order our priorities so that we put the risen Christ first in our lives at all times.
 - C: Forgive us when we forget that the tomb is forever empty because Jesus is arisen and is present wherever Christians live and worship.
 - P: Help us always to remember the costly act of Jesus Christ which led to victory over sin and death, an act which gives us the gift of a new beginning guilt free and graced by your love. The tomb is empty because Christ is risen!
 - C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.
 - P: Jesus "is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about Him that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name." (Acts 10: 42b,43) Hear, believe, and live the good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
 - C: Thanks be to God!
 - SING: Thou, of life the Author, death didst undergo,
 Tread the path of darkness, saving strength to show.
 Come, then, True and Faithful, now fulfil Thy word;
 'Tis Thine own third morning--rise, O buried Lord!
 "Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say;
 Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"
 Loose the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan's chain;
 All that now is fallen raise to life again.
 Show Thy face in brightness, bid the nations see;
 Bring again our daylight; day returns with Thee.
 "Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say;
 Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"

Choir: An Easter Fanfare

First Reading: John 20:1-9 (With TLH 190: Christ the Lord is Risen Again)

(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.

SING: Christ the Lord is risen again! Christ has broken death's strong chain! Hark, the angels shout for joy Singing evermore on high: Hallelujah!

The Victory Is Won!

Second Reading:

.....John 20:10-18

(10) Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. (11) But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. (12) And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. (13) Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." (14) Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. (15) Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." (16) Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). (17) Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God." (18) Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

He who gave for us His life. Who for us endured the strife, Is our Paschal Lamb today. We, too, sing for joy and say: Hallelujah!

Third Reading: John 20:19-20

(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.

SING: He who bore all pain and loss Comfortless upon the cross Lives in glory now on high,

Pleads for us and hears our cry: Hallelujah!

Fourth Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-26

¹² Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁴ And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. ¹⁵ Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. ¹⁶ For if *the* dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁷ And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins! ¹⁸ Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. ²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³ But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming. ²⁴ Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death.

SING: He who slumbered in the grave
Is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings
That the Lamb is King of kings. Hallelujah!

Thou our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, today Thy people feed; Take our sins and guilt away That we all may sing for aye: Hallelujah!

Children's Hymn: WS 730: Now Let the Heav'ns Be Joyful

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

2. From death to life eternal, From earth on to the sky, Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory. He is risen! He is risen! Christ the Lord is risen! Our joy shall have no end!

3. Let all things seen and unseen Their notes of gladness blend. For Christ the Lord is risen; Our joy shall have no end. He is risen! He is risen! Christ the Lord is risen! Our joy shall have no end!





C: I believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Man, Lord of lords and Savior of the fallen world. I believe that He came to earth on a mission of salvation, lived a holy life as my Law-fulfilling Substitute, was crucified at the hands of sinful men, and endured the punishment of hell at the hands of a just God. He died and was buried.

And I believe that on the third day He rose bodily from the dead, exactly as it had been prophesied and as He had promised.

Attested to by the inspired Scriptures and by many eyewitnesses, Jesus' resurrection verifies that He is God's Son, that His salvation mission is complete, and that He has triumphed over the last great enemy – death.

And in rising and conquering death, Christ has become the first-fruit of all who sleep in Him. Because He rose, I and all who look to Him in faith shall one day rise. 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 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.

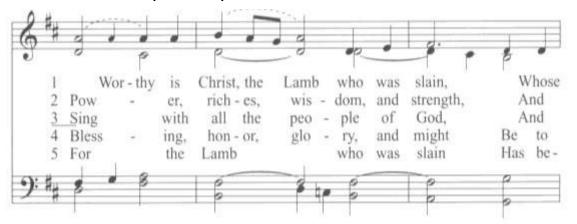
Sermon: Romans 4:24h-25

It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our iustification. $(NKJV^{TM})$

Jesus Christ on Trial: His Completed Sentence ... Our Glorious Verdict!

Hymn: WS 799: This Is The Feast of Victory

This is the feast of victory for our God, **Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!





Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80.

Tune and Setting: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text € 1978 Lutherun Book of Worship; Tune and Setting € 1975, 1988 Richard Hillert Used by permission

FESTIVAL CANTICLE Irregular with Refrain

Offering, Easter Prayer, Lord's Prayer:

Easter Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: [] Amen. Amen. Amen.

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

Note: Everyone sings unless noted otherwise.

- 1. Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- [Note: Men only; Everyone 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; Everyone 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 you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Amen.



† The Announcements †

- ♦ Easter Thanks: Thanks to all those who contributed to the gathering of Easter lilies at the front of the church. Those who purchased flowers may pick them up following worship. Another thanks to all who helped make the breakfast a special occasion.
- ◆ Easter Greeting: The Hein family would like to express their joyous Easter greetings to all of you. May you have a blessed Easter season! Pastor, Janelle, Christina, Abbie, Emily, David, Julianna, & Daniel.
- ◆ From the CLC President: Paul writes in Gal. 6:10: "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Love for the Savior loves to serve, just as He did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. Recently, the Lord called our Nigerian brother in Christ, Patrick Udo, from the trials of this life to Himself in glory. Pastor Udo is survived by his wife, an adult daughter Nsikan, and five young children: Ekemini (16), Daniel (14), Karen (12), Joann (7), and Jabez

- (3). I have authorized a special project within the MDF to help the family with their financial needs. Please share this opportunity to help "the family of believers" with the people of God whom you serve. Offerings may be designated: "CLC-MDF Patrick Udo Memorial."
- ◆ New Address: Daniel & Barb Fleischer; 6486 Lower 35th St N; Oakdale, MN 55128.
- ◆ ILC Summer Camp: Summer is around the corner and you know what that means, so is Camp! We have already been preparing for months and are very excited to get things rolling! Camp dates are June 16-22 for campers going into grades 5th-9th. The cost for camp will be \$100. We are also running our Pre-camper program again for children ages 5-9--this will be half-a-day in the mornings. Camp will be headed up by Joelle Lentz, Tom Naumann, and Jessica Ohlmann. We feel truly blessed to be given the opportunity to care for your child(ren) and nourish them in His Word. We have full confidence that God has given us the physical, emotional, and spiritual gifts needed to run this camp safely and smoothly. Thank you for your trust. We hope to see you and your child(ren) soon! Registration is open now.

Our camp website is http://youthcamp.clclutheran.net/.

† Do Not Despair †

In the midst of a physical world created by God with all its exquisite beauty, we are observing the effects of sin all about us. This is nothing new. Since the fall into sin, the whole creation has groaned under the burden that was foisted upon it (Romans 8: 22).

The Lord has told us that the last times will be difficult as sin and evil of every sort manifests itself without restraint (2 Timothy 3:1-7). We should not be surprised then at the events unfolding before us at what appears to be an accelerated pace. Nevertheless, while we live on this earth people of conscience and faith, as well as many who are not, are troubled at the deterioration of our society. After all, it is our home while we are here. We are troubled as we see the culture crumble before our eyes as immorality is practiced and receives official sanction. Christianity is being attacked by heathen, by people in authority in high places, by our public educational system, and by the man on the street. Even those who are to be guardians of truth are abetting the decline as many theoretically Christian churches have sold their soul for a mess of pottage.

While none of this is new—remember the time before the flood (Genesis 5:5)— and none of it is unexpected, nevertheless as ones who are living in these times we are troubled, if not angry, at what we see. But anger and despair finally serve no purpose. Rather as Christ believers we will pray that the Lord give us the strength to resist the evil lest we fall into temptation. As children called upon to glorify their Father in heaven we will want to exercise our responsibility as citizens of this country to stand against the evil. We want to

use the time that remains to witness boldly to the faith, the truth, and love of God through which the Spirit may still snatch a dying soul from the judgment of wrath that will be meted out on an ungodly world when the Lord comes to judge in righteousness all the nations of the earth.

Surely as we contemplate the love and faithfulness of our God manifest in the recent Christmas season, and as we focus on the love of Christ who went to the cross to bear the sins of the world, thereby reconciling the world unto Himself and giving life to all who believe in Him, we ought not despair. That which we now endure is passing. That which is to come sealed to us by the resurrection of Jesus is forever. We weep for our nation as we see it deteriorate, but we weep not as others which have no hope. Christ is risen from the dead. There will come an end to our present discomfort and concern as the risen Lord "delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power," (1 Corinthians 15:24) destroying even the last great enemy which is death (1 Corinthians 15:28).

The apostle Peter began his first epistle to a dispersed, persecuted people, "Grace to you and peace be multiplied" (1 Peter 1:2). This grace and peace was predicated upon an established fact — the Lord Jesus Christ had risen from the dead and restored life and immortality. He wrote:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an

inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith --- the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1).

Hold fast to the promises of Scripture. Rejoice this Easter and through the year in Jesus' resurrection from the dead. The simple fact is that as Jesus lives, so shall each one who through faith is a member of His body. "Can the Head rise and leave its members dead?" In the direst of times personally, or in the most discouraging times of our earthly existence focus not on what is, but on what shall be! Do not look at the troubles or the pleasures of this present time but on the risen Lord in whom "we have obtained an inheritance" (Ephesians 1:11). The day is coming when the Lord

shall put to flight all those who here have mocked Him and His people. The angry world could not rid itself of Jesus after his crucifixion. He rose from the dead. Try as it may it cannot rid itself of Him today as He rules over all things to the benefit of His people. As you believe in Him and confess Him as your Lord and Savior "hang tough" for to you and me belongs the kingdom, the glory of which we shall see

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world ..." (Matthew 25:31-34).

Do not despair. What is the saying ... "He who laughs last, laughs best?" We will not laugh at the judgment of the lost, but with a heavenly laughter that cannot be contained! Thanks be to God, and to our risen Lord to Whom be glory now and forever. Amen.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 4/2013

THE SEEDLING AND THE SAINTS

From The Lutheran Witness of April 8, 1958, by John A. Mueller.

I gently placed the seedling in the ground, And lightly covered it with mother earth. And there it lay, until one day, Awakened by the unseen hand of God. It came to life. Burst through the bonds That seemed to hold it captive, Came forth into the alorious light Of God's eternal sunshine. A living, vibrant creature, No longer dead and ugly, still to lie Beneath the breast of mother earth, But now a graceful thing of beauty, Cleansed from all filth and mire Wherein it once did lie. A symbol of the love and power Of Him who was its Maker and Creator.

Ah, what a picture of the saints of God Who, having borne the rigors and the trials Of life among their earthly fellows, Now lie in stillness in God's acre green For just a little season. Shall once again On the great Day of Judgment In answer to the trumpet's call Come forth into the hallowed presence Of their Redeemer and their King, Completely cleansed from all iniquities And frailties that made them mortals. To enter into immortality with Him. Who is the Resurrection and the Life, A living, alorious proof That death no longer has its sting, And that the grave, through Christ, has lost its victory.

† Today At Grace †

Organist: Sue Nelson <u>Elder</u>: Brandt Wendland

<u>Ushers</u>: Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter

<u>Counting Team 4</u>: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner

<u>Hospitality Team 4</u>: Bye (Easter Breakfast)

Church Cleaners. P. Radichel School Cleaners. A. Baker

† Next Week At Grace †

<u>Ushers</u>: Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow

Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel

<u>Church Cleaners</u>: **Olmanson** <u>School Cleaners</u>: **A. Baker**

† Our Schedule

Today: 7:30 am – Easter Breakfast

9:00 am – Easter Festival Service

Tue., Apr. 2: School Resumes from Easter Break

Wed., Apr 3: Catechism – Suspended (Pastor out of town)
Thu., Apr. 4: 7:00 pm – Christian Day School Art Fair

Sun., Apr. 7: 8:30 am - Choir Practice

9:00 am - Sunday School & Bible Class

10:00 am - Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Easter 2)

11:00 am - Hospitality; 12:00 pm - Council Mtg.

April 10-11: CLC Coordinating Council @ Eau Claire **Sun., Apr. 21:** 11:30 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings

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!



