

The Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord

March 27, 2016



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Welcome!

In the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome all of you to Bethany Lutheran Church for our Easter Sunday festival service. We especially welcome our guests and visitors who have joined us today. **We pray that the resurrection gospel fills your hearts with the peace of God's forgiveness and the certain hope of eternal life with him.**

PRESERVICE MUSIC

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
Christian Worship #157

As the organ introduces the hymn, please stand and face the paschal candle in the back of the church. Turn toward the front of the church as the candle is carried past your pew.

RESURRECTION DIALOGUE

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
C: And also with you.

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: This is the day the Lord has made.
C: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

M: I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.
The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.
C: Let us come before him with thanksgiving, and extol him with music and song.

M: I will not die, but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.
C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

M: **The Lord's right hand is majestic in power.**
The Lord's right hand has shattered the enemy.
In the greatness of his majesty he threw down those who opposed him.
C: Death has been swallowed up in victory.

M: The Lord will not abandon me to the grave. He has made known to me the path of life.
C: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

M: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?
C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.
C: The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,
and he will reign forever and ever.

M: Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.
C: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THIS IS THE FEAST OF VICTORY (Congregation sings the refrain, and the minister sings the verses)

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. lu - ia.

Verses

1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5. For the Lamb who was slain has be -
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Jonah 2:2-9

- 2 **"In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry.**
- 3 You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me.
- 4 **I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.'**
- 5 The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head.
- 6 To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God.
- 7 **"When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.**

8 "Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.

9 But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."

PSALM OF THE DAY (sung responsively)

Psalms 118

Refrain

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-
joice and be glad! This is the day the
Lord has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Psalm tone

The LORD is my strength and my song;*
he has become my salvation.

The LORD'S right hand is lifted high;*
the LORD'S right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,*
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

Refrain

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;*
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;*
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them — yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

GOSPEL (*please stand*)

Luke 24:1-12

The congregation sings the following hymn stanza as the Gospel procession moves to the middle of the assembly. Those in the front of the church turn to face the Gospel procession as it moves past their pews to the center of the assembly.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.**

The Gospel is read from the center of the congregation, symbolizing the physical appearance of Christ among his disciples after his resurrection.

¹On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " ⁸Then they remembered his words.

⁹When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹²Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

After the Gospel is read, the Gospel procession returns to the chancel as the following hymn stanza is sung.

C: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once he died, and once was buried:
Now he lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.**

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY
Christian Worship #143

He's Risen, He's Risen, verses 1-4

SERMON

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Theme: Fundamental Facts About Easter

After the sermon, please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH AND
REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

M: Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his **life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul says in Romans chapter six: "Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin--because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus." In Holy Baptism God takes away our sins and gives new life in Christ, our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

M: I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

C: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

M: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

C: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

M: Do believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

M: Will you continue steadfast in this baptismal faith and, as a member of the Church, be diligent in the use of the means of grace and prayer?

C: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

After the offering, please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: **With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.**

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

Special prayers and intercessions may be offered here.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. (*Silent prayer.*)

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! 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.

HYMN

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing
Christian Worship #171

PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received through your Gospel the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

I Know that My Redeemer Lives
Christian Worship #152, stanzas 1,2,7,8

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29 <i>NO Bible Study</i>	30 <i>Happy Birthday Rosvita Treleani!</i>	31	<i>April 1</i>	2 Men's Fellowship <i>and Bible Study 8:30-10:00 AM Happy Birthday Carrson Vioral!</i>	3 <i>Sunday School and Bible Study 9 a Worship 10:30 a Catechism 12:10 p</i>