

# First Lutheran Church, Morris MN

## Order of Worship for Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021

*Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In Word and meal we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!*

## Gathering

### Ringing of the Bell

### Welcoming

### Opening Dialog

*Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!*

*Christ is risen from the dead! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!*

*Jesus is no longer in the tomb, Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!*

### Hymn: "Hail Thee, Festival Day!" #394

**Refrain: Hail thee, festival day!**

**Blest day to be hallowed forever;  
day when our Lord was raised,  
breaking the kingdom of death.**

2. Risen from the grave now, O Lord,  
the author of life and creation.  
Treading the pathway of death,  
new life you give to us all: **Refrain**

4. Jesus, the health of the world,  
enlightened our minds, great redeemer  
Son of the Father supreme,  
only begotten of God: **Refrain**

1. All the fair beauty of earth  
from the death of the winter arising!  
Ev'ry good gift of the year  
now with its master returns: **Refrain**

3. God the Almighty, the Lord,  
the ruler of the earth and the heavens,  
guard us from harm without;  
cleans us from evil within: **Refrain**

5. Spirit of life and of pow'r,  
now flow in us, fount of our being,  
light that enlightens us all,  
life that in all may abide: **Refrain**

*Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Used with permission under One License #A-710041*

### Prayer of the Day

*God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

# Word

## Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. <sup>7</sup> And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup> It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; **God's mercy endures forever.**

Let Israel now declare, **"God's mercy endures forever."**

The Lord is my strength and my song, **and has become my salvation.**

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: **"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

The right hand of the Lord is exalted! **The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"**

I shall not die, but live, **and declare the works of the Lord.**

The Lord indeed punished me sorely, **but did not hand me over to death.**

Open for me the gates of righteousness; **I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

"This is the gate of the Lord; **here the righteous may enter."**

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me **and you have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected **has become the chief cornerstone.**

By the Lord has this been done; **it is marvelous in our eyes.**

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

## Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Mark 16:1-8 (response after announcement of Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord**)

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

(response after reading of Gospel: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

**Message** Easter Hope

**Hymn:** "Now the Green Blade Rises" #379

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.
2. In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.
3. Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.

*Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum. Music: French carol © Oxford University Press. Used with permission under One License #A-710041*

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers

### Sharing the Peace

# Meal

**Offering/Offertory** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.

*Music: J.A. Freylinghausen. Public Domain.*

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

*In the name of the Father, and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit, **Amen.***

*God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.***

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### **Proper Preface**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

### **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

### **Holy Communion**

### **Post Communion Blessing & Prayer**

# Sending

## Blessing

## Announcements

### Hymn: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" #365

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!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
into Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinner to redeem and save. 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!

*Text: Latin carol, 14th Century. Music: J. Walsh. Public Domain*

## Benediction

*Go in peace, serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!***

### **Thank you to those that gave to the Easter Garden to decorate our sanctuary this morning:**

*In honor of our great grandchildren: Callan Tirso Padilla and Luca Monae Lyseng from Ward & Carol Voorhees  
In memory of Joyce, Vince and Brion Dalager from Vicki & Bob Dalager  
In memory of our parents from Eugene & Cathy Anderson  
In memory of mom and dad from Sherry Anderson  
In memory of Laura from Allan, Julie, Katie & Brenna Monroe  
In memory of Arley & Naomi Lyseng and Don Mahony from Dick & Deb Mahoney  
In honor of Springtime! from Cheryl Higgins  
In memory of our loved ones from Jo Solvie  
In honor of the Solvie/Schultz families*

## **Remember in your prayers**

---

Mick Rose, those affected by COVID-19, those working in our hospitals and care centers, those who serve in the military, families of victims of war, terrorism and violence, those in our nursing homes and those who are homebound. Continue to pray for the overseas missionary we support, Pastor Alex LaChappelle serving as a pastor of Nairobi International Lutheran in Kenya, Africa. Note: you may honor a loved one and support Pastor LaChappelle in Kenya. Contact the church office for information.