

# **Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church**

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**2nd Sunday of Easter – April 7, 2024**

**Preludes: "Jesus Shall Reign" and  
"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" arr. by Mark Hayes**

*Take the time to center heart and mind on God's presence in worship.*

**Call to Worship**

Christ is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed!**  
Jesus is Alive! **He is Alive in Me!**

## **Confession of Sins**

**Acts 3:19 states:** “Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out...” Let us now confess our sins in the presence of one another and our God.

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

We would sing praises to you, **Composer of our lives, but we often let fear consume us. We would learn your healing hymns of grace, but the broken chords of our anger and pain echo deep within us. We would dance in the circle of your love, but we recall how quickly we turned and ran when offered opportunities to serve your people. Forgive us, Giver of every blessing. Open our hearts and fill us with your mercy. Like Thomas, may we have the courage to confess “My Lord, My God.” Open our eyes that we may see and believe in the hope we have in Jesus, our resurrected Christ, our Lord and Savior, our inheritance of love and joy. Amen.**

### *Silent Prayer of Confession*

**2 Chronicles 7:14 states:** “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins...” as a servant of Jesus the Christ, and by his authority it is my pleasure to share with you that God has heard your confession and has forgiven you of all your sins, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!!!

# Opening Hymn: "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

ELW #363 1, 4, 5



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:  
who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing  
Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

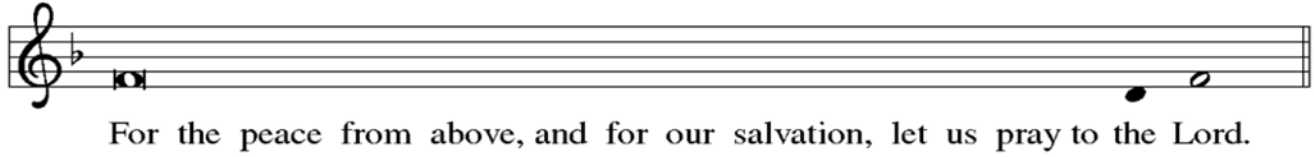
## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# Kyrie



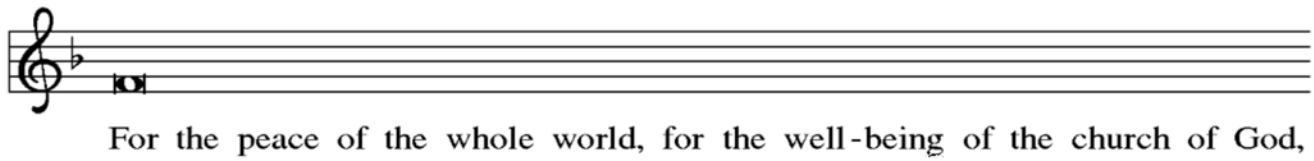
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



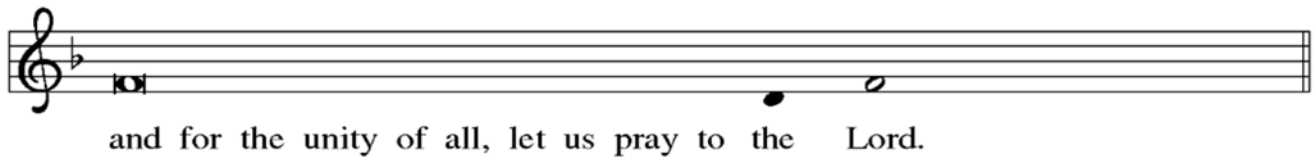
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



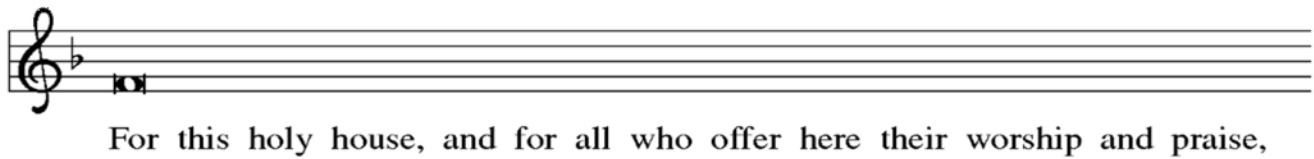
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



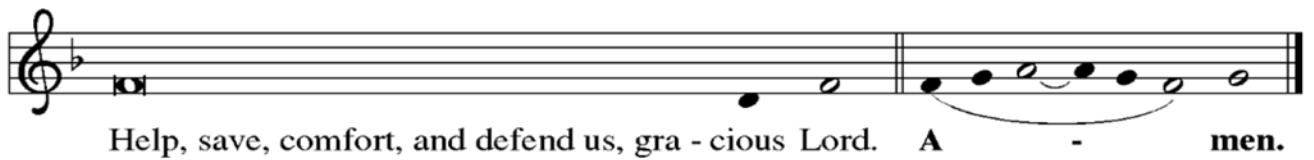
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

# Hymn of Praise,

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## **First Reading: Acts 4:32-35**

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## **Psalm 133**

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

**<sup>2</sup>It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

## **Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2**

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. <sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as

he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John Chapter 20. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them



again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."  
<sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,  
"Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

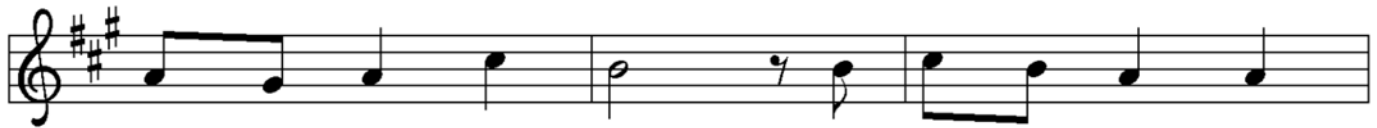
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon: "The Ultimate Confession"**

## Hymn of the Day: "We Walk By Faith" #635, vs. 1-4



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.

## 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 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.**

## **Intercessory Prayers**

Each petition ends: God of grace—Response is “**hear our prayer.**”

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## **Offertory “Crown Him with Many Crowns” arr by Joel Raney**

## **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

## **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 our thanks and praise.**

## **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ, and his promise to be with us always as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

## Communion Hymn: "Day of Arising", Hymn 374



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

## Post Communion Prayer

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

## Benediction

## Ministry Highlights

## Sending Hymn: "Thine Is the Glory", vs. 1 & 2, Hymn 376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;

### *Refrain*



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

**Dismissal**

**Postlude “Joy in the Morning” by Lani Smith**

## Worship Servants

**Today**

**April 14**

Accompanist/

Director:

Ann Knipping

Ann Knipping

Greeters:

Lector:

Ralie Deffenbaugh

Miriam Deffenbaugh

Ushers:

Gary Wallace

Randy Huber

& Mike Wold

& Mike Wold

Teller:

Ralie Deffenbaugh

Ralie Deffenbaugh

Altar Care:

Tara McConnell

Tara McConnell

Comm. Asst.:

AV Engineer:

Steve Peter

Steve Peter

Flower Sponsor:

Mike Kellam

Ann Knipping

Flower Arranger:

Paula Stensvaag

Paula Stensvaag

This week's flowers are in honor of Christine's birthday.

## This Week's Calendar

**Sunday, April 7** 9am Sunday Worship

10:15am Why Church in the Library

**Monday, April 8** 3pm Community Bible Study

**Wed., April 10** 8am Sacred Space (online)

4pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 11** 1:00pm Quilters

**Saturday, April 13** 12pm Peak to Peak

**Our Worship is Recorded Contact Bruce Brackman if you have concerns.**

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