

*Easter Day
March 31, 2024*



St. Matthew's

Lutheran Church

*Presiding: Pastor Brigitte Weier, Worship Assistant: Liz Hawke
Pew Edition*

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

Welcome to St. Matthew's! We're glad you're here!

PRELUDE Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

J. S. Bach

St. Matthew's vision is a community deeply rooted in the love of God, energetically engaged in meaningful relationships with our neighbors near and far, committed to rich diversity, intentional inclusion, bold advocacy, and care for creation to connect people to God and transform lives.

PM: 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 feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

Let us take a moment to quiet our hearts and minds from the business of the week and prepare for worship.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as the People of God.

PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

PM: We gather together to build our relationships.

C: **Our relationship with God. Our relationship with each other. Our relationship with our neighbor.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water is poured into the font at the words Look, here is water!

PM: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

PM: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

PM: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C: AMEN**

PM: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW365



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

GREETING

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also, with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PM: 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. **C: AMEN**

PLEASE BE SEATED

Word

God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song.

FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43

Liz Hawke

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

WA: A Reading from the book of Acts

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

WA: Word of God Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 118:1-2, 14-24

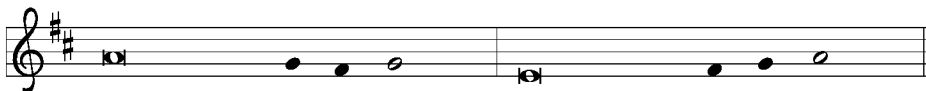
Cantor Leandra Ludlam

The congregation will sing the bold faced verses.

Refrain



Psalm Tone 6



¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD. R**



- ¹⁸The LORD indeed pun-lished me sorely,
but did not hand me o-ver to death.
- ¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**
- ²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”
- ²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation. R**
- ²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- ²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Liz Hawke

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

WA: A Reading from the book of 1 Corinthians

¹Now 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, ²through 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.

³For 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, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit 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 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

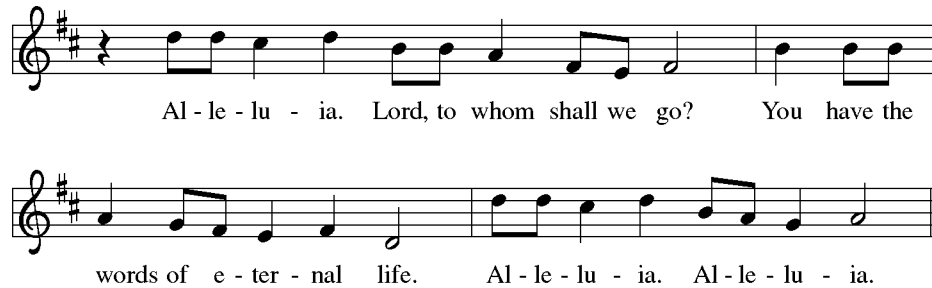
WA: Word of God Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 3



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 MARK 16:1-8

Pastor Brigitte Weier

LP: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

LP: ¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But 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. ⁷But 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." ⁸So 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.

LP: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Brigitte Weier

SERMON

Pastor Brigitte Weier

Please Rise in Body or Spirit

HYMN OF THE DAY Christ The Lord Is Risen Today: Alleluia!

ELW369



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

Please Be Seated.

The Worship Assistant leads the prayers and assembly responds at the conclusion of each petition.

Prayers Of The People

WA: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

WA: Merciful God, **C:** hear our prayer.

WA: Let us join together to offer our prayers to the One who Loves.

Whether inscribed on paper or etched upon our hearts, we weave them into the hearts of this community and let them rise like incense during the Easter Vigil.

As the congregation comes forward with prayers, quiet music is played in the background. When all is complete, the presiding minister continues.

PM: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: AMEN**

Peace

PM: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also, with you.

PM: Say to the people viewing online Peace be with you.

PM: Say to your neighbors next you Peace be with you.

Meal

God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need, As the offertory is played, please use this time for reflection and silent prayer in preparation to receive God's blessed gift of life.

PM: The gifts we offer are given as thanks to the Lord for the abundant blessings in our lives. These gifts of time, talent and treasure are used to support the mission and ministry of St. Matthew's the wider church, the community in Taylorsville and beyond into the world. We thank you for your generosity as we lift our hearts in praise for God's generosity here in this place for gifting us, with you!

OFFERTORY THINE IS THE GLORY

ELW376



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
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



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
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



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



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

OFFERING PRAYER

WA: 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. **C: Amen.**

PM: At St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, all are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Christ's table. Who is all? New worshipers, babies, toddlers, teenagers, middle-aged and older, members, non-members, those who aren't sure of their faith, those who are sure of their faith, those who are doubting, wondering and wandering. You are wanted at the table of God's grace, mercy and love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

PM: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you.

PM: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

TABLE PRAYER

PM: Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others. **C: AMEN**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The presiding minister continues:

PM: In the night in
both now and forever. **C: AMEN**

LORD'S PRAYER

PM: Together, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

The Ushers will invite you down the aisle to the bread and wine/grape juice stations to receive communion. After you receive, you may kneel at the altar to pray or return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN Let us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980

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1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, see what to - day is done;
 2 Now hell, its prince, the dev - il, of all their pow'r are shorn;
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens—what peace it does im - part!
 4 Now I will cling for - ev - er to Christ, my Sav - ior true;
 5 Christ brings me to the por - tal that leads to bliss un - told,



now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes forth the glo - rious sun.
 now I am safe from e - vil, and sin I laugh to scorn.
 Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the joy with - in my heart.
 my Lord will leave me nev - er, what - e'er he pass - es through.
 where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal is found in script of gold:



My Sav - ior there was laid where our bed must be made
 For Christ a - gain is free; in glo - rious vic - to - ry
 No gloom shall ev - er shake, no foe shall ev - er take,
 He rends death's i - ron chain; he breaks through sin and pain;
 "Who there my cross has shared finds here a crown pre - pared;



when, as on wings in flight, we soar to realms of light.
 he who is strong to save has tri - umphed o'er the grave.
 the hope which God's own Son in love for me has won.
 he shat - ters hell's grim thrall; I fol - low him through all.
 who there with me has died shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.
 Music: AUF, AUF, MEIN HERZ, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

COMMUNION

PM: The Body of Christ Given for You. The Blood of Christ Shed for You.

TABLE BLESSING

PM: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood nourish and strengthen us for his service, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WA: 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. **C: Amen.**

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you to Brian for bringing worship today into our homes.
- Thank you to Kathleen, Pastor Brigitte, and Liz Hawke for leading worship this morning,
- The meetings schedule for this week are:

- *Prayer Shawl Monday 4/1 2PM*
 - *Worship & Music Tuesday 4/2 7PM*
- *Please join us for brunch in the fellowship hall served by the Evangelism & Hospitality ministry.*
- *Outreach & Advocacy Opportunities:*
 - *Over the next several months we will be collecting items to put together personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief on the God's Work Our Hands Day of Service September 8, 2024.*
 - *Month of April New light to medium weight bath towels 20" x 40", No larger than 52" x 27" (darker colors preferred)*
- *Please take your potted plants home after service to beautify your home.*
- *Annual St. Matthew's Yard Sale – June 22, 2024. You can begin to bring your donated items to the church and place them in the narthex. Someone will make sure they get put in the basement in readiness for the yard sale.*
- *Please check the following for the latest updates on church news: St. Matthew's Facebook page, the website, the bulletin boards, your personal emails, text messages and voice mails.*

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT FOR THE BLESSING

BLESSING

PM: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PM: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always. **C: Amen.**

SENDING SONG Now All The Vault Of Heaven Resounds

ELW367



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

WA: We are all called to proclaim God's grace by telling the story of Jesus
 go out this week to bring light, hope and healing to the world.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Now All The Vault Of Heaven Resounds

David Johnson

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