



Lord of Life
Lutheran Church



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

2nd Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024
10:30 am

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting Eight

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

ELW 535

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Song: *Jesus Messiah*

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

ELW p. 184

The assembly joins in with the refrain when invited.

let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Canticle of Praise

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Refrain

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain (x2)**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

³²Now 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. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There 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. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

¹We 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—²this 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—³we 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.

⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This 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. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but 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. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}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;

²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: *Word of God, Speak*

Word of God speak, would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
to be still and know that You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest, in Your holiness
Word of God speak (**repeat**)

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Gospel: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

¹⁹When 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.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come

to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.**

Children’s Time

Sermon

The Rev. Karla Wildberger

Song of the Day: *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

Nicene Creed

Let us profess our faith together:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

...God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

...our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Song: *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

ELW 535

Offering Prayer

Let us pray,

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.

Holy Communion

Preparing for the Table

People of God, People of life. We gather as a holy communion, for a meal that has been shared countless times, in countless places, and in countless ways.

The first time this meal was shared, Jesus was gathered around a table with a ragged collection of people--outcasts, betrayers, the power-hungry, the fragile, lonely, lost.

The first time this meal was celebrated, Jesus promised that it was for all time, that whenever the bread was broken and the wine poured, wherever the story was told around a table, he would be there.

Today we remember the story as it's been told a thousand times over; we eat the bread, and we drink the wine, and we affirm that we all belong at this table and that Jesus is here.

So if we come to this table angry,

Let this bread and wine be our peace.

If we come to this table broken,
Let this bread and wine be our grace.

If we come to this table betrayed,
Let this bread and wine be our wholeness.

If we come to this table in despair,
Let this bread and wine be our life.

For this is a holy table, with food to fill the hungry world and wine to quench thirsty hearts.

Thanks be to God!

Words of Institution

... We break bread and share the one cup.

Thanks be to God!

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray together as Jesus taught us.

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

Lamb of God

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Communion Distribution Song: *Thine Is the Glory*

ELW 376

1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! **Refrain**

3 No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. **Refrain**

Prayer after Communion

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Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Sending Song: *This Is Amazing Grace*

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: *This Is Amazing Grace*

Announcements

Altar Flowers today are provided by Jon & Rita Dienst in honor of their wedding anniversary.

First Communion for Sophia Gillen

We celebrate with Sophia and her family as she receives her First Communion today at the 10:30 service.

Calling Bakers

We're looking for any good bakers who may be interested in making and donating a pie for a silent auction to support the youth attending the gathering this summer. If interested, please talk to Pastor Karla for more information. Thank you!

Coffee House

On Sunday, April 21st, 4-6pm, Lord of Life will be hosting a Coffee House/Silent Auction to raise funds for those going to the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans. It is going to be lots of fun...there will be surprise guests!!! Also, in the Narthex, there is a table with boxes for each LOL person going to the Youth Gathering. Please write them a note with a prayer or thoughts of encouragement and put it in their box. (You can also get them a fast-food gift card for them to use to get snacks during their trip 😊)

World Hunger Month

April marks the month for collecting quarterly donations to World Hunger. If you choose to donate to this cause, it can be added to your regular giving and noted as 'Other: World Hunger' on the offering envelope.

"Ted Lasso" Bible Study

Our Ted Lasso Bible Study will begin on Monday, April 8th at 6:30pm. Each week will include viewing the episode(s) of the week, and a Bible study to follow. You do not need to know anything about tea, soccer, football, coaching, or AFC Richmond to join this group. We will have 1 week of "stoppage" while Pastor Karla is away for "Faith Forward" training. Please RSVP to Pastor Karla if you would like to attend, pastor@lordoflifedbq.org

This Week at Lord of Life

Sunday, April 7	8:00 AM	Worship in-person
	9:15 AM	SS/Confirmation
	10:30 AM	NOW Worship in-person or online
Monday, April 8	6:30 PM	Ted Lasso Bible Study
Tuesday, April 9	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
Thursday, April 11	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministry

Prayer List

Brianna & Alan Ensign
Paul & Kathy Erickson
Amy & Dennis Felderman and family
Doris Felderman
Tim & Heather Felderman and family
Phyllis Fishnick
Nate & Diane Frambach

This Week's Worship Servants

Readers:	8:00 Sue Deaver	10:30
Ushers:	8:00 Steve & Sandy Heer	10:30 Tim & Heather Felderman
Tech/PPT:	8:00	10:30

Acknowledgments

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Worship Online

Zoom:

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Meeting ID: 563 582 7371
Passcode: Luther



Phone in at:

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