

# EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, March 30, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

## As We Gather

*The Easter Vigil leads us from the darkness of Good Friday into the joy of Christ's resurrection. In the early church, worshipers spent the night before Easter waiting and watching for the sunrise. New members of the Christian community were baptized at this time. We see in our worship tonight the connection between our baptism into Jesus' death and the new life which emerges by being raised up with Him, for "If we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly also be united with Him in a resurrection like His" (Romans 6:5).*

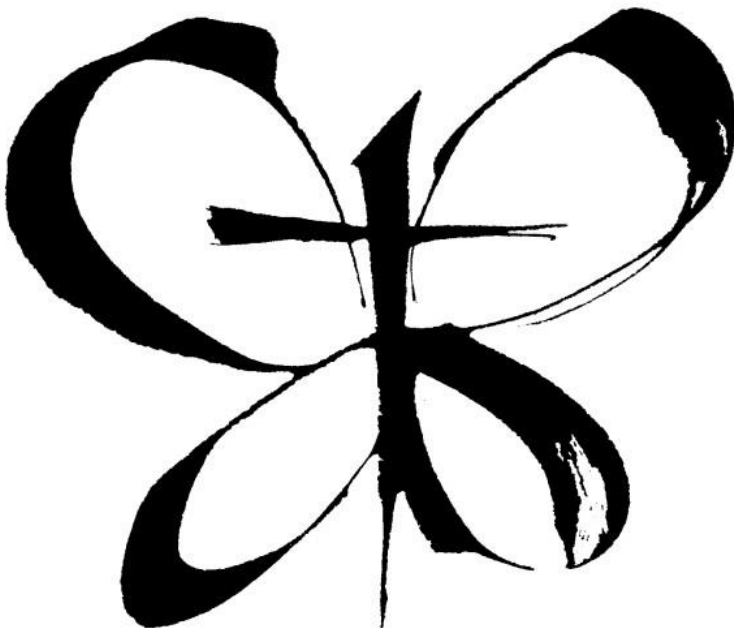
## Red Connection Pads

Welcome! Please add your name to the connection pad at the end of your row or record your attendance online at [clcs.org/attendance](https://clcs.org/attendance) or the QR code on the right.



**A Note on Offerings** As an act of worship and thanksgiving, we offer to God what He has first given to us: the first and best of our time, talents, and financial gifts. Donation boxes are located by each entry door or if you would like to contribute online, with either a onetime or ongoing gift, please use [clcs.org/give](https://clcs.org/give) or the QR code to the left.

Welcome



# ✠ Service of Light ✠

*P = Pastor; L = Worship Leader; C = Congregation*

## Opening Sentences

**P:** People of God, on this holy night we gather in waiting, vigil, and prayer.

This is the time of our salvation! By faith in His Word and in the saving power of God's promises in Baptism and Holy Communion, we share in Christ's victory over death. We wait in hope.

**C:** Gracious God, as we light our candles, bless all who remember Christ Jesus this night. Keep the fire of our faith ever burning until You call us to You. Amen.

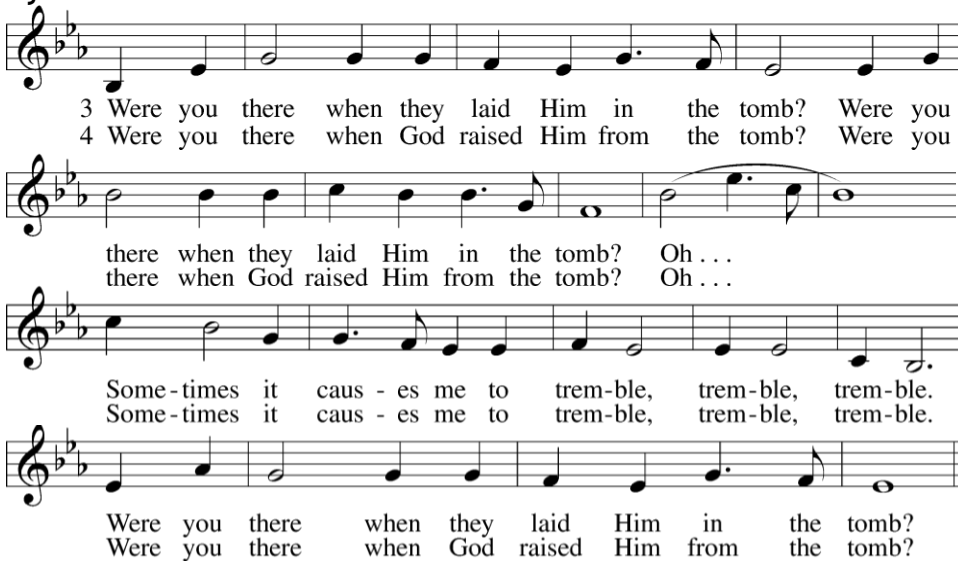
*(Please stand)*

**Lighting of the Christ Candle & Sharing of the Light** *(Please tip only unlit candles.)*

## Hymn

### "Were You There"

LSB 456



3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you  
4 Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb? Were you  
there when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh ...  
there when God raised Him from the tomb? Oh ...  
Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.  
Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

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## A Reading of God's Word

*Genesis 1:1-5*

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## Hymn

## “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”

LSB 467

1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, See what to - day is done;  
Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes forth the glo - rious sun.  
My Sav - ior there was laid Where our bed must be made  
When to the realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.

Public domain

## A Reading of God's Word

John 1:1-5

L: <sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was Life, and that Life was the Light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

C: **May the light of the risen Christ scatter the darkness of our lives and enlighten all the world with God's salvation. Amen.**

*(Please extinguish candles. Continue holding them upright until the wax has time to cool.)*

*(The sanctuary lights are raised.)*

## Our Confession of Sin & the Announcement of Forgiveness

P: On the Saturday of Holy Week the darkness of Good Friday still hung in the air. We come however knowing the joyful outcome, and yet we must admit that we still see the darkness of sin in our world and in our own lives, the darkness that led Jesus to lay down His life for us. We therefore go to him in confession of our continued need:

C: **Lord Jesus, we come to You acknowledging the darkness that still maintains a foothold in our lives. It is evidenced in our thoughts, words, and actions. Our lives do not always bear witness to the power of Your resurrection. Forgive us and lead us by the power of Your Spirit, so that we may walk in Your ways.**

P: People of God, the Jesus who died on Good Friday arose triumphant on Easter Sunday, giving us the promise that he would never leave us, not even in death. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## Baptismal Remembrance

*Based on Romans 6*

*(The early church baptized new believers during the Easter Vigil. After a period of instruction, they were welcomed into the community. Through the life-giving waters of baptism, they were connected to Jesus' death and resurrection. And so today we remember our own baptism.)*

P: The word of God says: "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"

C: **We were buried with Him through Baptism into death so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.**

P: If we have been united with Him in a death like His,

C: **We will certainly also be united with Him in a resurrection like His.**

P: For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the sin of our body might be done away with,

C: **We need no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died in Christ has been freed from the power of sin.**

## ✠ The Word of the Lord ✠

### New Testament

**"For I delivered what I also received"**

*1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers [and sisters], of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, 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 at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <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, unworthy 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 was not 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 preach and so you believed.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

**Colossians 3:16**

## Hymn Verse

## “Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

LSB 474



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -  
 sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -  
 ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:  
 Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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## Holy Gospel

## “Unexpected tidings at the tomb”

Mark 16:1-8

<sup>1</sup> When the Sabbath was past, 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> And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup> And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup> And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup> And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

## Gospel Proclamation

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Why do you look for the living among the dead?

C: He is not in the grave! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*(Please be seated)*

## **Hymn of the Day & Ringing of the Bells “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465**

*(We are reminded throughout the Bible that our earthly worship both mirrors and connects with the worship that is taking place in heaven around the throne of God. In church tradition, the ringing of small bells within the worship service is a reminder of the songs of the angels.*

*Today we ring our bells as a reminder that both heaven and earth rejoice at the great news that Jesus has been resurrected from the grave. He lives! Alleluia!)*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Now all the vault of Heav’n resounds<br/>In praise of love that still abounds,<br/>Christ hath triumphed, He is living!<br/>Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear,<br/>Repeat their song of glory here,<br/>Christ has triumphed, Christ has triumphed!<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.</p> <p>2 Eternal is the gift He brings,<br/>Therefore our heart with rapture sings,<br/>Christ hath triumphed, He is living!<br/>Now still He comes to give us life,<br/>And by His presence stills all strife<br/>Christ has triumphed! He is living!<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.</p> | <p>3 Adoring praises now we bring<br/>And with the heavenly blessed sing,<br/>Christ has triumphed, Alleluia!<br/>Be to the Father, and our Lord,<br/>To Spirit blest, most holy God,<br/>All the glory, never ending!<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.</p> |
|--|--|

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**Sermon**

**“Against All Odds”**

**1 Cor. 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8**

*Listen to past sermons or share them with a friend at [clcs.org/sermons](https://clcs.org/sermons).*

## Confession of Faith *(Please stand)*

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
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.

## Prayers & Lord's Prayer

- P: Let us pray.
- P: Lord of healing, watch over all who are in medical need. Supply them Your strength as they continue their journey under Your watchful eye, especially (...*special petitions*). This is the day the Lord has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- P: Lord of life, in Christ You showed how You can bring hope and life where there is despair and death. Comfort those who weep over the deaths of loved ones, especially (...*special petitions*). This is the day the Lord has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L: Lord of Grace, bless Your Church with the power needed to meet the challenges in our world today. May we boldly offer hope and peace in all that we do. This is the day the Lord has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L: Lord of hope, be with all who are downcast and downtrodden. Lift their eyes to the cross and the empty tomb that you may shine in their lives. Grant them the needed joy for these wearisome days This is the day the Lord has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L: Lord of purpose, fill our lives with Your direction, as we seek to serve You and others within our unique areas of influence. Help us carry Your truth, peace, and grace into our families, our work, and our community. This is the day the Lord has made;
- C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L: Teach us, O Lord, to rely fully upon Your Word of promise. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, as we join all our prayers together using the words of the 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.

## ✠ Holy Communion ✠

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, welcomes us today to the table to receive of the blessings won for us upon the cross. As we draw near confessing our wayward ways and desiring to live a new life in Christ, we examine ourselves as the Bible encourages us to do in 1 Corinthians 11:28. We therefore pause to consider why Jesus gave us this sacred meal and what He now gives us in it, for this is a meal of...

1. **Forgiveness** - Am I sorry for my sin and desire God's forgiveness? (Matthew 26:28)
2. **Faith** - Do I believe that Jesus is my Savior and that he is truly present in this meal for my benefit? (1 Corinthians 11:26-28)
3. **Fellowship** - Do I come to this table desiring reconciliation with others (Matthew 5:23-24), and am I in agreement with the beliefs of this faith community in which I now seek to receive communion? (1 Corinthians 10:16-21)

New to Calvary or have questions? Feel free to speak to a pastor before or after service.

Those not receiving communion may remain seated or come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate you are not receiving communion.

**When invited forward, please line up in front of the communion rail.**

*Gluten-free wafers are available on stands at the end of the first row for those with a gluten allergy to pick up on their way to the communion rail.*

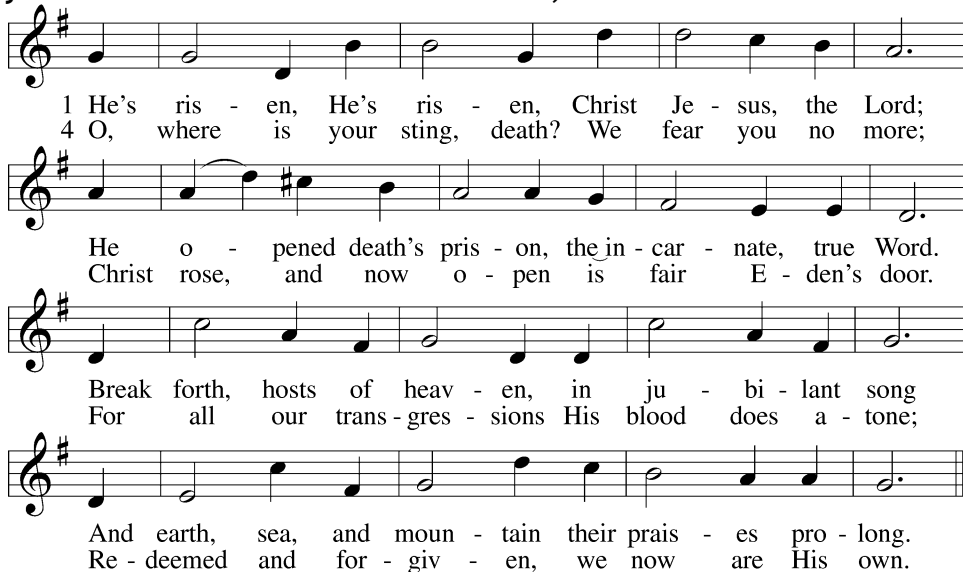
*Non-alcoholic (white) wine is available at the center of the communion tray.*

**After being dismissed with a blessing, please return to your seat using the center aisle.**

### Hymn

### "He's Risen, He's Risen"

LSB 480



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;

He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.  
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.

Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;

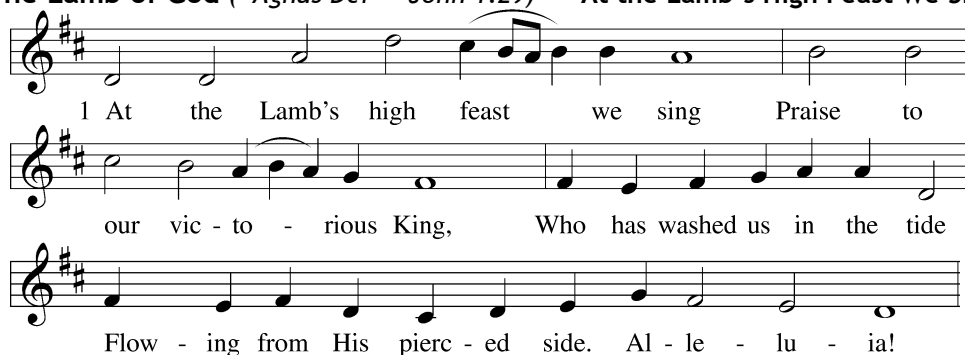
And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.  
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.

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## The Words of Institution & Communion Prayer

### The Lamb of God ("Agnus Dei" - John 1:29) "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!

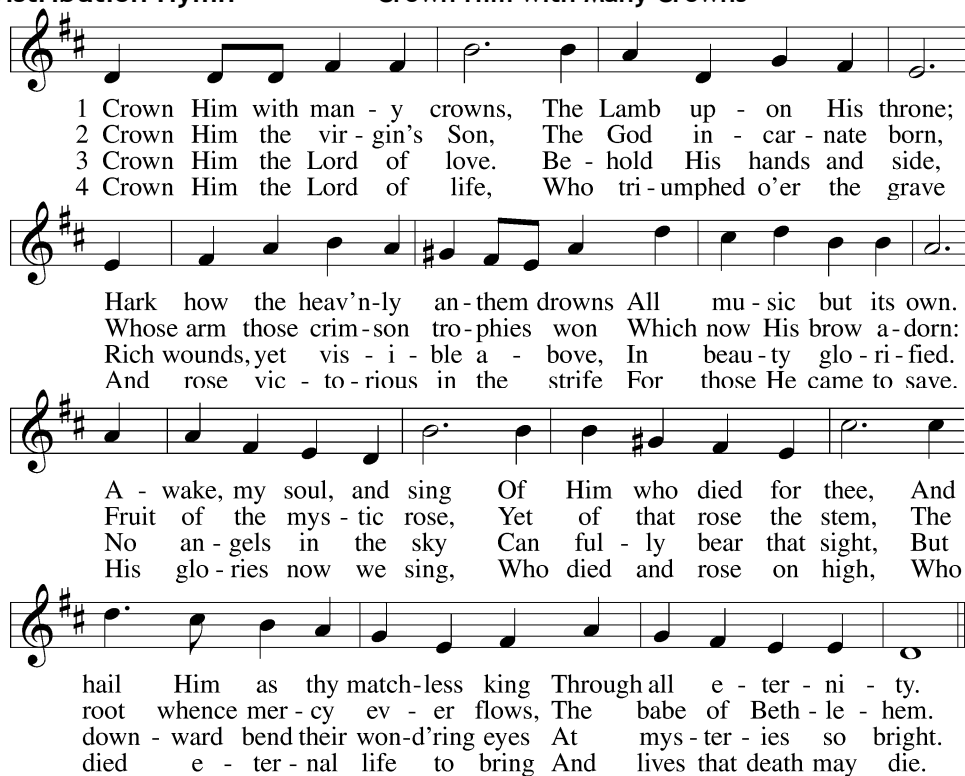
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### Communion Distribution (*Please be seated*)

#### Distribution Hymn

#### "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

LSB 525



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,  
3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,  
4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave

Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.  
Whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won Which now His brow a - dorn:  
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.

A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And  
Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The  
No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But  
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who

hail Him as thy match - less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.  
down - ward bend their won - d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.

(cont'd)

- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,  
Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n  
The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns  
As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,  
For He is king of all.

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## For Prayer & Personal Reflection during Communion Distribution

**“And [the young man] said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.” Mark 16:6**

*Why does the young man invite them to inspect the place where they laid him?*

*Why is God inviting you to investigate for yourself the testimony of the eyewitness of the crucifixion and resurrection?*

**“And [the women] went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them...” Mark 16:8a**

*In every circumstance of life, there is a question that hangs over us, “Do we have fear or do we have faith?” Which one is winning out in your life? Why?*

**“And [the women] said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.” Mark 16:8b**

*Where is Jesus inviting you to “work out” the implications of his resurrection for your everyday trust and faith in him? Where is he inviting you to go and tell of your faith?*

**Post-Communion Hymn (please stand)      “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”      LSB 633**

- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

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## Communion Blessing

### Easter Affirmation & Blessing

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P:** The blessing of almighty God: Father, T Son, and Holy Spirit go with you always.

**C:** Amen.

## Hymn

## "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

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## Sending

*You are invited to stay after service to decorate the church for Easter Sunday.*

**Easter Breakfast Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.**

*Please join us for a light breakfast in the gym.*

*A freewill offering will take place to support our youth attending  
the senior high mission trip to St. Louis, MO this summer.*

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give  
to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

**John 14:27**

## ✝ LEADING OUR WORSHIP ✝

**Preacher:** Pastor Kurt Ebert

**Worship Leader:** Doug Wright

**Communion Assistant:** Eric Eisberg

**Organist:** Ellwyn Parks

**V-tech Operator:** Debbie Shaw

**V-tech Creator:** Rachel Daeger