

“PEACE BE WITH YOU”



St John 20:19

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 16, 2023

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn

Thine Is the Glory

(ELW) No. 376

*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting

(ELW) page 138

P: 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.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*)

(ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

(ELW) NO. 382

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Help us, almighty God, that our joyful celebration of the resurrection feast may be reflected in our daily work and conversation. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 5:29-42

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights.

²Praise Him, all you angels of His; praise Him, all His host.

³Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars.

⁴Praise Him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord; for He commanded, and they were created.

⁶He made them stand fast forever and ever; He gave them a law which shall not pass away.

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing His will;

⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²Young men and maidens, old and young together.

¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name only is exalted, His splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴He has raised up strength for His people and praise for all His loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

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

* The Gospel

John 20:19-31

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

(ELW) No. 774

Sacrament of Baptism for Emma Cecelia Mayer

found on page 227 in the ELW book

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

I Know That My Redeemer Lives (verses 1-4)

(ELW) No. 619

*The Dismissal (*response*)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thine Is the Glory

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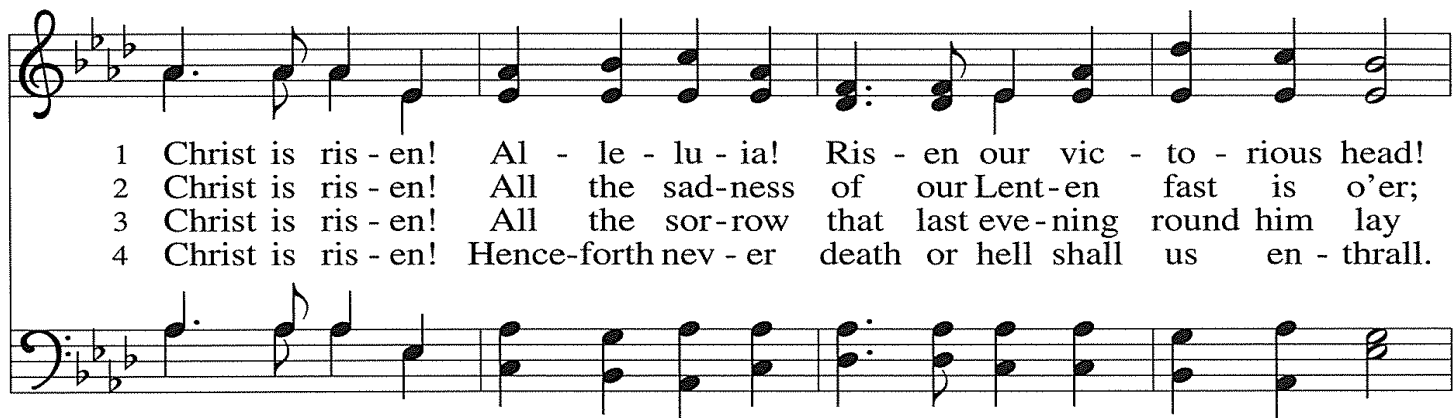
1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

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,

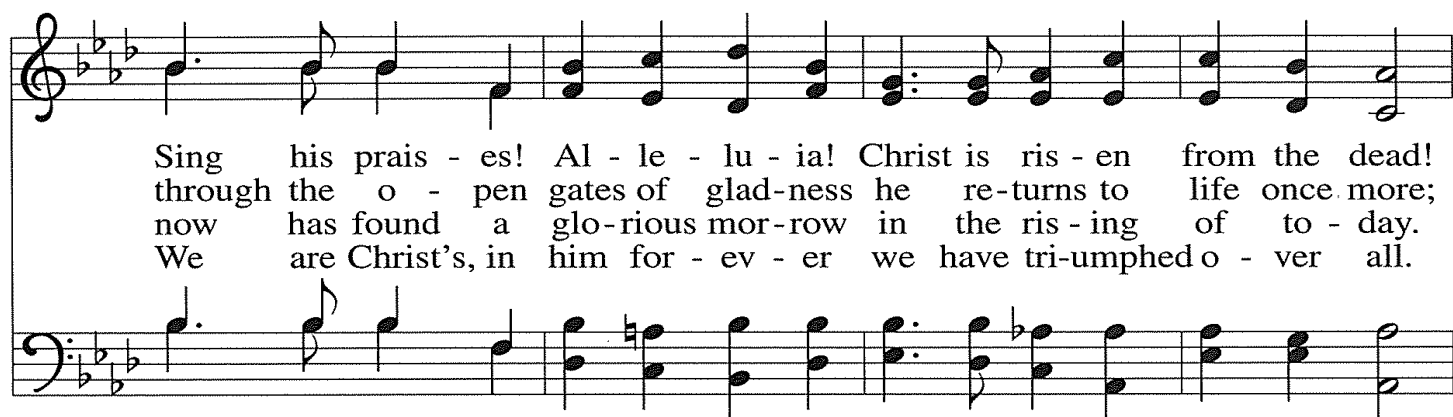
rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

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.

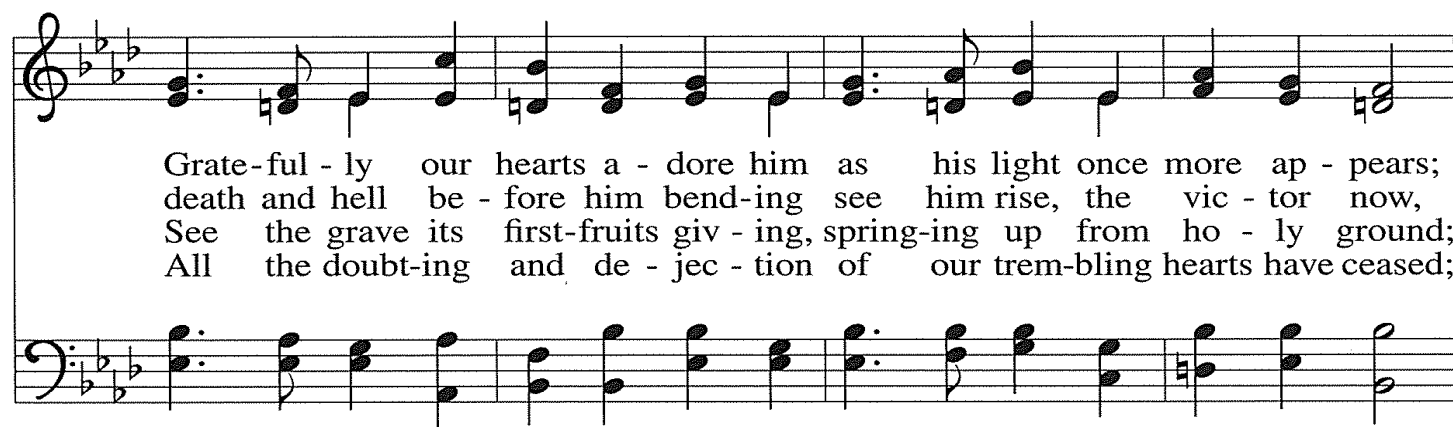
Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!



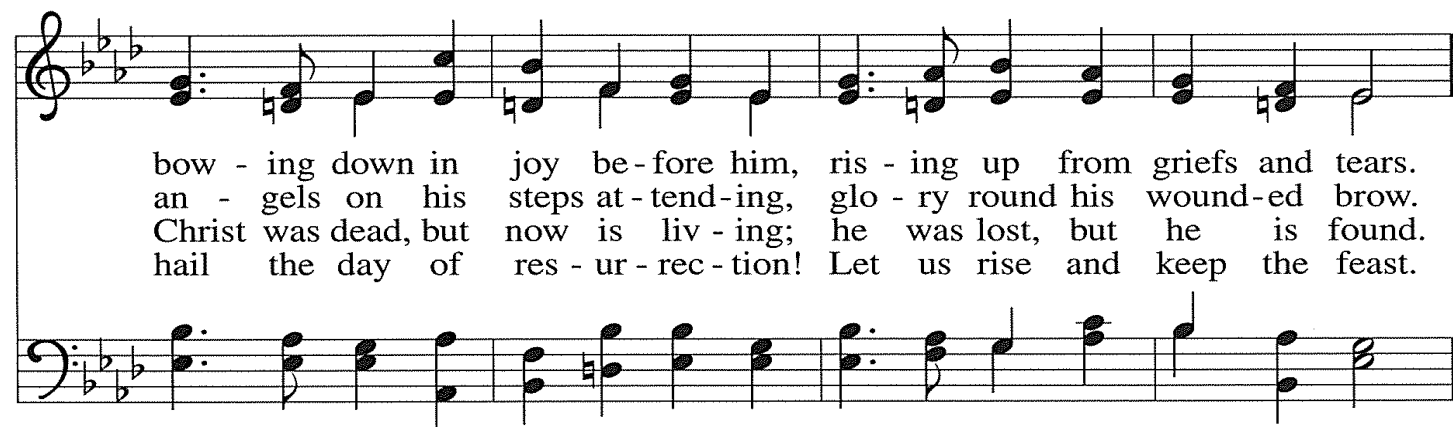
1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;
 now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
 death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

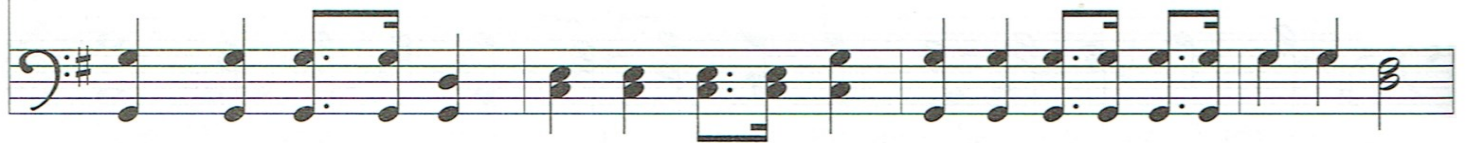
What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

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Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



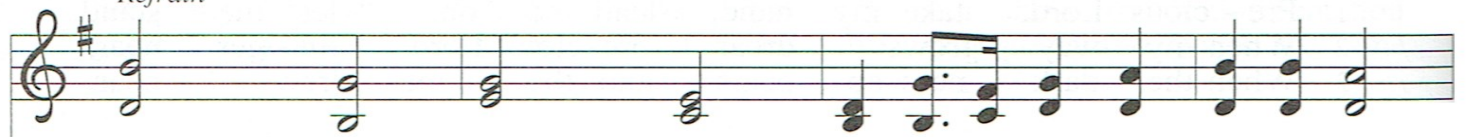
- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms?



what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right".

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your".

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -".

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

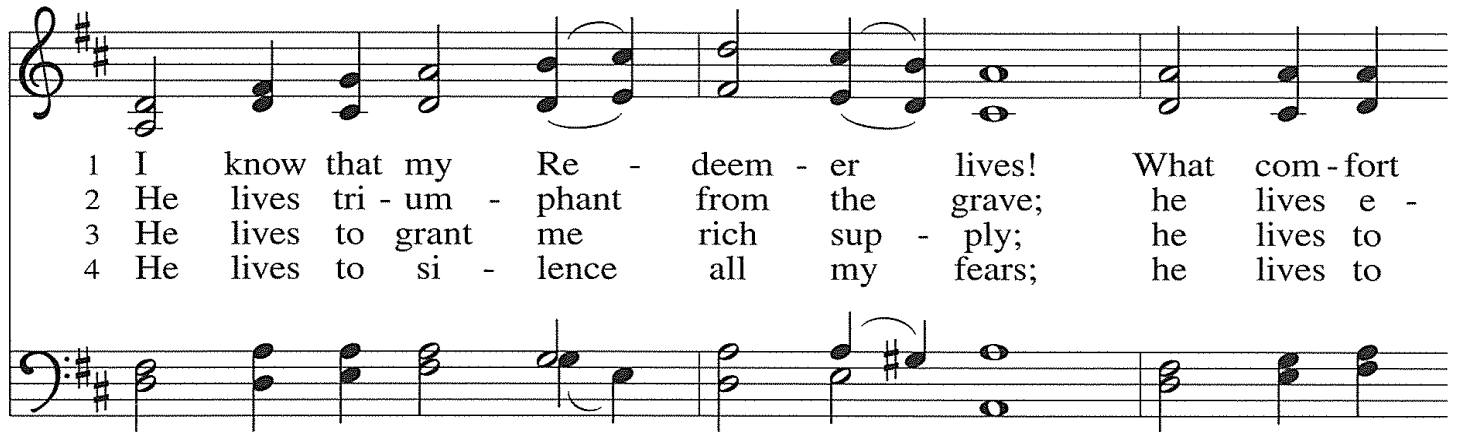
The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,".

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

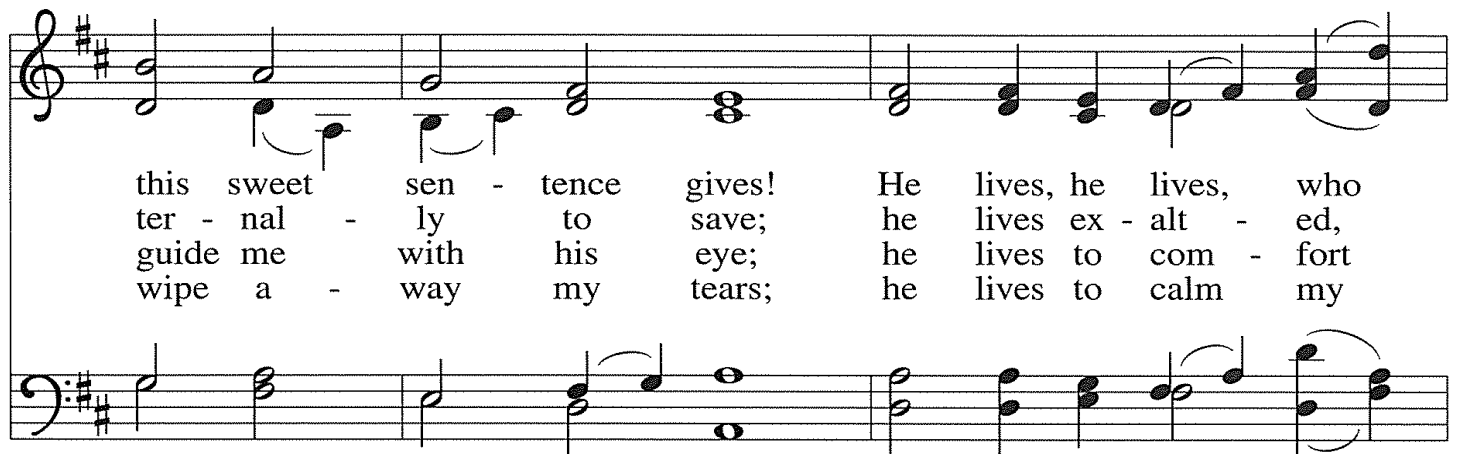
The fifth system concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.".

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

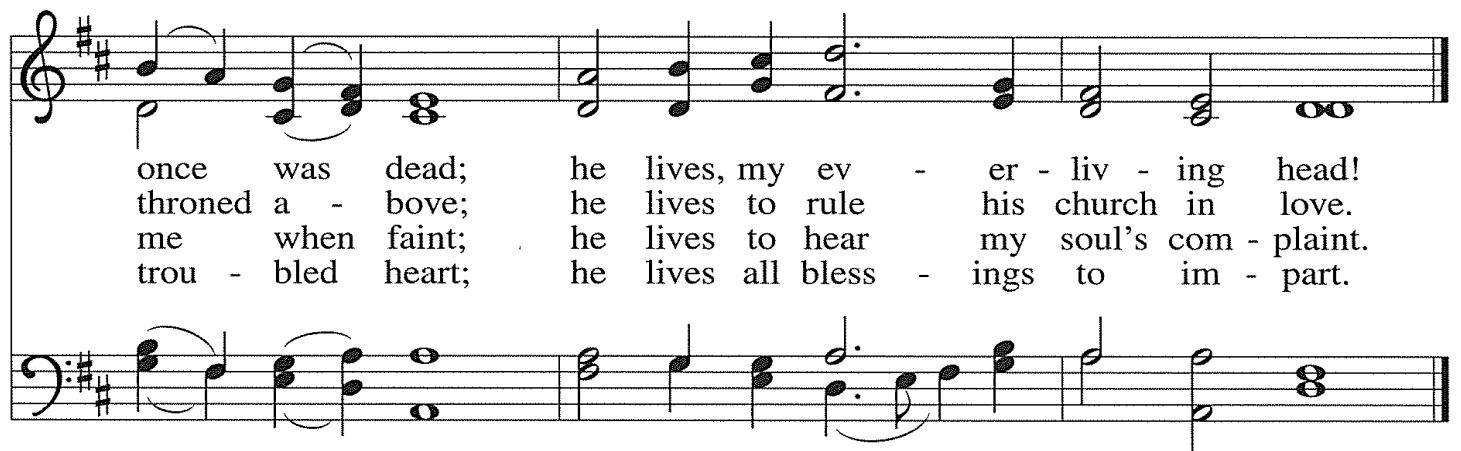
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1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

First Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

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revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Kristine Schuerle

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God by Rich and Kim Luketich in celebration of Jonathan's 26th birthday.

The Lay Reader is Lisa Maust.

Acolytes are Nathaniel Black and Wesley Black.

Counters/Greeters today are K. Luketich and L. Sten.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Monday at 6 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2023 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2023. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2023. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Janet Burke, Eveline Reihner, Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, baby Ryan, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Bill Stewart, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, Gary, Daniel, Judy Dombrowsky, Emily Buchleitner, Greg Mason, Alexandra Perry, Lu Mayne, Pat, Chaz Sands, Rev. Phil Gagnon, Jacob, Maxine Banko, Brooke, Ellen, Jacob Orr, USN, Roger, John Bartanus, Becky & Chuck, Rosemary Dittman, Marty Hebrank, Noah Walker, Janet Williams, Nathan, Mary, the Lobach Family, Pastor Grewe, Debbie, Sayward, Jim Walter, Larry and Tillie Simpson.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Church Offering Change: In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Second Sunday of Easter – April 16, 2023

“Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’” -John 20:27-29-

So often the disciple Thomas gets a bad reputation. He is seen as being foolish and labeled as “Doubting Thomas.” Those are unfair assumptions made of Thomas. He was not with the other disciples in the upper room, the first time the risen Jesus had appeared to them. Is it really any wonder that Thomas would have a hard time believing his fellow disciples that they had seen Jesus alive? As far as Thomas and the others were aware, dead people tend to stay dead. You and I wouldn’t have acted any differently than Thomas.

No doubt that Thomas believed in the risen Lord and served as one of the greatest leaders and pillars of the early Christian Church. In fact, when Jesus had been informed of Lazarus’ death, the disciples were hesitant to return to Jerusalem because they were afraid of the Jews. It was Thomas who said, “Let us also go, that we may die with him” (see Jn. 11:11-16).

Thomas did believe in his risen Lord. He was still in a deep state of grief, so much so that it overshadowed the truth. He allowed unbelief to cloud his faith. It isn’t anything new that we human beings like to have physical proof of something. The other disciples had seen Jesus eight days earlier. Jesus invited them to touch him and see for themselves that he was not a ghost; he was in the flesh, risen from the dead. Thomas needed that. So Jesus invited Thomas to touch his wounds. And as Thomas did, he believed. Thomas’ faith was reignited as he exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” (v. 28) We need that reignition of faith, too.

We need daily reminders that our sins are forgiven. God reminds us that we can’t save ourselves. We need Jesus to cash that in for us. Like Thomas, we need our faith reignited.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, forgive us when doubt and fear begin to overshadow the truth and our faith. Thank you for giving us faith to believe and trust in your promises. In Jesus’ name, amen.