

✠ **The Order of Service** ✠

April 28, 2024

**PRELUDE**

**INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES**      *Psalm 66:1–4, 8–9; 40:5*

P      In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C      **Amen.**

P      Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C      **sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

P      Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds!

C      **All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”**

P      Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,

C      **who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

P      You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

C      **I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P      Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C      **O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.**

P      God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C      **Amen.**

P      As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C      **Amen.**

**THE SHARING OF PEACE**

P      As God’s forgiven people, we share God’s peace to one another, Peace be with you!

C      **Peace be with you!**

*Please share the peace with those around you.*

## **KYRIE**

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A 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.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE #474, vv 1 & 5** Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

**1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain: **Jesus is risen and we shall arise:  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**5. City of God, Easter forever,  
Golden Jerusalem Jesus the Lamb,  
River of life, Saints and archangels,  
Sing with creation to God the I AM! [Refrain]**

## **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Risen Lord, You are the vine and we are the branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism You have grafted us into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in us and make us fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**    *Acts 8:26–40* (Philip witnesses about Jesus to the Ethiopian official.)

L        This is the Word of the Lord.

C        **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**        *1 John 4:1–11* (An exhortation to lives of Christian love)

L        This is the Word of the Lord.

C        **Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**        *Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

P        Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

C        **Alleluia. If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**    *John 15:1–8* (Jesus says that He is the vine and His people are the branches.)

P        The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C        **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P        This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C        **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CREED**        *The Second Article*

P        As we celebrate the risen Christ in this season of Easter, let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding our Savior, who is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

C        **I believe 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.**

P        What does this mean?

C        **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY #595 O Blessed Spring**

**1 O blessed spring, where Word and sign  
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:  
Here Christ enjoins each one to be  
A branch of this life-giving Tree.**

**2 Through summer heat of youthful years,  
Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,  
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,  
The boughs will shout for joy again.**

**3 When autumn cools and youth is cold,  
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,  
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move  
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.**

**4 As winter comes, as winters must,  
We breathe our last, return to dust;  
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing  
And trust the promise of the spring.**

**5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,  
Be praised for this blest mystery:  
That Word and water thus revive  
And join us to Your Tree of Life.**

**SERMON**

**PRAYER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERINGS ARE PRESENTED**

**OFFERTORY** *(p.176 in hymnal)*

**C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
And will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now  
In the presence of all His people,  
In the courts of the Lord's house,  
In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.

### BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### HYMN #475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

**1** Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**2** The Lord of life is ris'n this day;  
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**3** Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**4** Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.  
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