

Throughout the 50 days of Easter, paraments in the chancel point us to the good news of Christ's resurrection. The lectern fall during this season announces our Lord's victory over sin and death with a symbol of his death and resurrection. By the cross, our Lord grants forgiveness, and through the empty tomb, Jesus is raised for our justification. This is God's glory and victory, for Christ now reigns over all things.

Prelude: German Baroque composer Johann Ludwig Krebs provides a bold setting of Martin Luther's hymn for Easter: "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands."

Entrance Hymn: In a hymn helping us sing of the many images and promises of the Easter season, the third stanza includes references to our Lord's words in today's Gospel—"Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree..." The text was written by Herbert Brokering, the same poet who wrote the eclectic text first associated with this hymn tune—"Earth and All Stars."

Fifth Sunday of Easter

We gather to celebrate and proclaim the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

P = Pastor **A** = Assisting Pastor **C** = Congregation **L** = Leader

Prelude

"Chorale Prelude on CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN"

Johann Ludwig Krebs

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand.

Invocation

- A** In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

- A** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection.

- A** Let us confess our sin to God our Father. Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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.
- A** Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Entrance Hymn 377

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"

EARTH AND ALL STARS

5 PM Holy Baptism

Theo David McBeth

Parents: Madison and Joshua McBeth

Sponsors: Alyssa and Dylan Olsen

Apostolic Greeting

- A** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
A The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

Canticle of Praise: Throughout these 50 Days of Easter, words from Revelation proclaim our Lord's triumph over sin and death and reign over all things. This is the feast of victory for our God—alleluia!

9 AM Canticle of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2. Sing . . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.

Refrain



3. For the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

- Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

First Reading Acts 8:26-40

NT page 120, pew Bible

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:25-31 *(read responsively)*

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
 I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
 Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!
 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
 all the families of nations shall bow before God.
For dominion belongs to the Lord,
who rules over the nations.
 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
 all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.
Their descendants shall serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
 saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

Second Reading: *We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-21

NT page 230, pew Bible

- Word of God, Word of Life.
- Thanks be to God.

9 AM Hymn

"Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds"

NUN DANKET ALL

1. Let chil-dren hear the might-y deeds which God per - formed of old,
 2. So make to them his glo-ries known, his works of pow'r and grace;
 which in our young - er days we saw, and which our par - ents told.
 and we'll con - vey his won-ders down through ev - 'ry ris - ing race.

9 AM Children's Message

Pastor Tom Stadem

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Aaron David Miller

(Organ)

Al-le lu - ia, al-le lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Choir/Cantor: I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit. (John 15:5)

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: *On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*
 † *Today's preaching text.*

Gospel Announcement

- The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel John 15:1-8 †

NT page 104, pew Bible

- The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tom Stadem

Silence for reflection.

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day 769

"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Nicene Creed: Early in its history, the Nicene Creed was spoken in worship when Holy Communion was celebrated. As weekly communion became the practice in Christian congregations, we now reserve this Creed for festival days and seasons—of which the Easter season is primary.

9 AM Nicene Creed

- A** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C** 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 the Church

- A** Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Following each petition:

- A** Lord, in your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- A** Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

- A** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** And also with you.

Please be seated.

Offering

Voluntary

"Fugue in C Major"
George Frideric Handel

Please stand.

Offering Presentation: *Shortly after the Reformation began in 1517, Christians began singing this brief text and tune during the season of Easter. It has its origins in Latin plainsong, and was later used to help craft Martin Luther's hymn "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands."*

Offering Presentation

"Christ Is Arisen"
CHRIST IST ERSTANDEN

1. Christ is a - ris - en from the grave's dark pris - on. So let our joy rise
full and free; Christ our com-fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

2. Were Christ not a - ris - en, then death were still our
pris - on. Now, with him to life re - stored, we praise
the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!

Offertory Prayer

- Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, grant us your Holy Spirit, that we might hear and share your promise of new life with all in need.
- Amen.

Sursum Corda

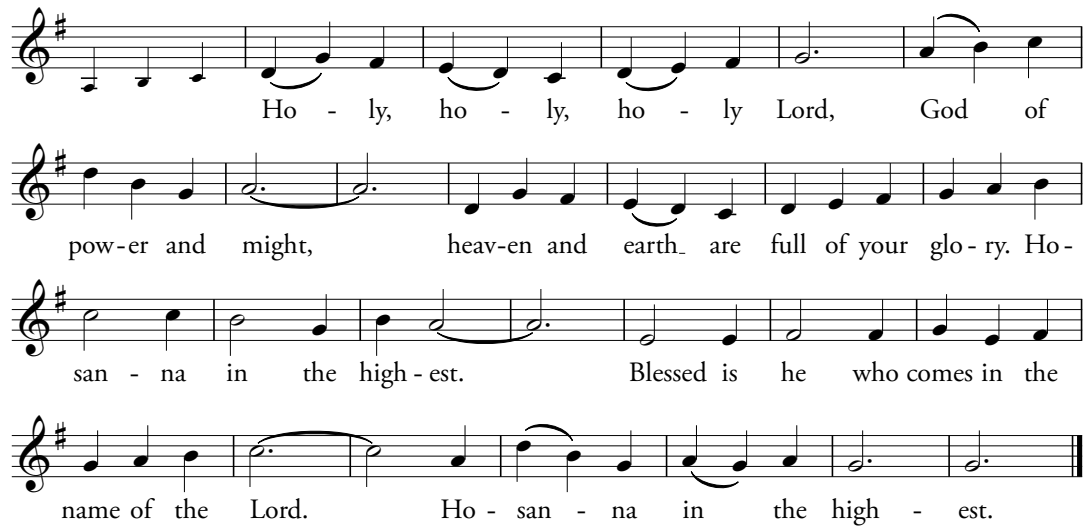
- The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus: The "blessed One" who "comes in the name of the Lord" is the Risen Christ—crucified and raised for you!

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution: Hear Christ's words of promise spoken again "for you, for the forgiveness of your sin."

Words of Institution

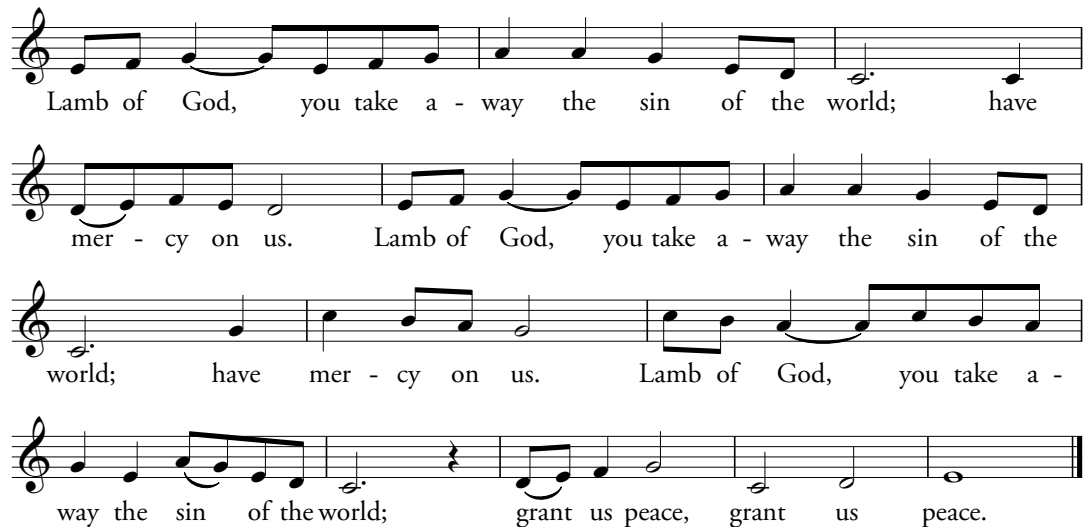
The Lord's Prayer

- Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- 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.
- Our risen Lord comes to us in the breaking of the bread with his body and blood, promising forgiveness and new life. Let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.
- This is the feast of victory for our God! Alleluia!

Please be seated.

Agnus Dei: Just as the Risen Lord bestowed God's peace on His fearful disciples, so Christ comes today that we might have peace and forgiveness by our Lord's Word. In this confidence, we sing words of prayer and faith: "Grant us peace."

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion: All who are baptized and trust Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper, where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. Please come forward at the ushers' direction. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.

Hymn 539: In this hymn—a prayer—we ask that our Lord's promise would be seen in his disciples. Christ comes to us today with grace, a Word of hope, as our light and Lord, giving us His love as our Risen Lord.

Communion

Hymn 539

Hymn 370

Please stand.

Blessing

- A** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

Prayer after Communion

- A** Let us pray. Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven, the very body and blood of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, keep us steadfast in the promise and life-giving hope of your resurrection, that by the Holy Spirit we might testify to the power and grace of your work for us and all people.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

- P** May God who has brought us from death to life grant you faith to trust in Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sending Hymn 779

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

NEW BRITAIN
Stanzas 1 and 4

Dismissal

- A** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A** Go in peace in the freedom of the risen Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude

"Toccata on CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN"
Michael Burkhardt

Welcome to Worship

First Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



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Tom Stadem, *Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Ministries*
Bob Chell, *Visitation*
Robin Hofkamp, *Visitation*
David Houck, *Visitation*
Dennis Tranberg, *Visitation*

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Valerie Pherson, *Youth and Family Ministry Team Lead*
Brenda Leiseth,
Children's and Youth Minister
Mollie Brown,
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9 AM: James Johnson

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Sat. 5 PM Traditional, Chapel
Sun. 8 AM Rebroadcast of previous week, KELO-FM (101.9)
Sun. 9 AM Traditional, Sanctuary
Watch live on YouTube
Sun. 11 AM Contemporary, Sanctuary
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