

# LIFE VICTORIOUS OVER DEATH

Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of our Lord

# Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church | York, NE

April 17, 2022

#### **Easter Season Theme: VICTORIOUS**

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever. Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

#### THEME OF THE DAY: LIFE MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER DEATH

Death hung like a suffocating shroud over us all. It was a constant source of sorrow and shame. Death doesn't just bring life to an end. The impending threat of death spoils every moment of life that leads up to it. The moment Christ emerged from the tomb, however, nothing would be the same. Life was unleashed on humanity and it will reign until death and its effects are no more. The salvation Christ brings is not just a rescue from a world gone bad but a resurrection to a world that will once again be good. Christ's victory restores life to us even now. Even as we continue to wipe the tears that death causes, we can defiantly taunt this fallen tyrant: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

#### SERVING IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader
Organist/Pianist
Violin

Pastor Mark A. Haefner Mr. Steven Springborn Isaiah Richert

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#### **Easter Acclamation**

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

#### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn: 438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Stand

# **Opening Sentences**

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights above.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

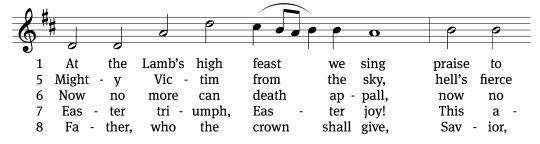
his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

## Hymn: 675 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

sts. 1, 5–8





Text: tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.; Latin, c. 4th–10th cent., alt. 17th cent.. Tune: Kirchengeseng, Ivancice, 1566. Text and tune: Public domain

# **Prayer**

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen

Be seated

First Reading Isaiah 25:6–9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain
the LORD of Armies will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food,
a banquet of aged wines,
with the best cuts of meat,
and with the finest wines.

<sup>7</sup>On this mountain
he will destroy the shroud that covers all peoples,
the burial cloth stretched over all nations.

The LORD God will wipe away the tears from every face.

He will take away the shame of his people throughout the earth.

For the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>On that day it will be said,

"Look, here is our God!

We waited for him, and he saved us!

This is the LORD!

We waited for him.

Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Hymn: 458 Christ Is Arisen

Christ is arisen

from the grave's dark prison.

We now rejoice with gladness;

Christ will end all sadness.

Lord, have mercy.

All our hopes were ended

had Jesus not ascended

from the grave triumphantly.

For this, Lord Christ, our thanks shall be.

Lord, have mercy.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We now rejoice with gladness;

Christ will end all sadness.

Lord, have mercy.

Text: tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.; German, c. 1100. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 713578

# **Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

<sup>51</sup>Look, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, <sup>52</sup>in a moment, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. <sup>53</sup>For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup>But

once this perishable body has put on imperishability, and this mortal body has put on immortality, then what is written will be fulfilled:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

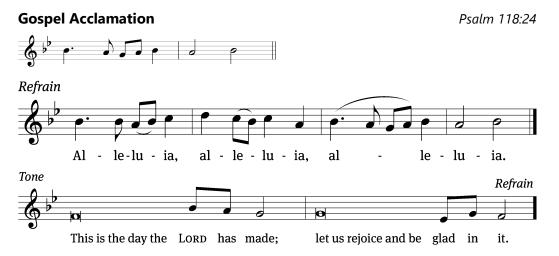
55 Death, where is your sting?

Grave, where is your victory?

<sup>56</sup>The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup>But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.



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Gospel Luke 24:1–12

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. <sup>3</sup>When they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup>While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men stood by them in dazzling clothing. <sup>5</sup>The women were terrified and bowed down with their faces to the ground.

The men said to them, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup>He is not here, but has been raised! Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again?" <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words.

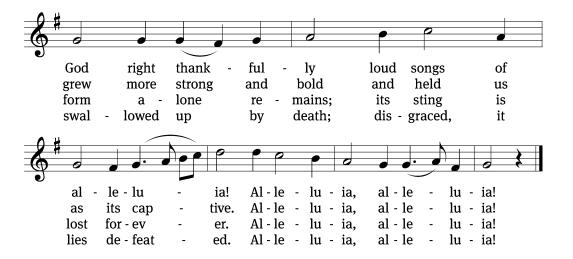
<sup>9</sup>When they returned from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>Yet these words seemed to them like nonsense, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over to look in, he saw only the strips of linen cloth. He went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

# Praise be to you, O Christ!

# Hymn: 440 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands





- 5 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, whom God so freely gave us; he died on the accursed tree so strong his love—to save us. See, his blood now marks our door; faith points to it; death passes o'er, and Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 So let us keep the festival
  to which the Lord invites us;
  Christ is himself the joy of all,
  the sun that warms and lights us.
  Now his grace to us imparts
  eternal sunshine to our hearts;
  the night of sin is ended.
  Alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 Then let us feast this Easter Day on Christ, the bread of heaven; the Word of grace has purged away

the old and evil leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed;
he is our meat and drink indeed;
faith lives upon no other!
Alleluia, alleluia!

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#### Sermon

Stand

## **Apostles' Creed**

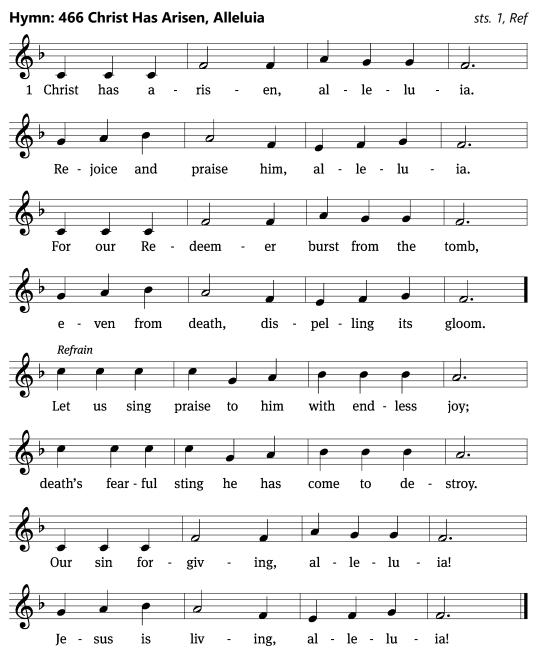
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.

Be seated

# Offering



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Prayers of intercession, seasonal prayers, and the Prayer of the Day may follow.

### **Prayer of the Church**

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life.

Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will-false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom. Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.

Special Intercessions

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.

Amen.

**Hymn: 884 Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See** (Final Verse of A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth)

#### Children's Lesson

# **Prayer**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,

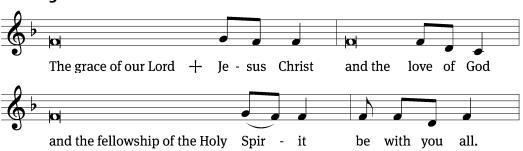
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

### **Benedicamus**





# **Blessing**





# **Hymn: 441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives**

All I know that my Redeemer lives!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my everliving head!

All He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save; he lives all-glorious in the sky; he lives exalted there on high.

#### V. 3 WOMEN

3 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.

#### **V. 4 MEN**

4 He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye; he lives to comfort me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

#### V. 5 ALL

5 He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears; he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.

#### V. 6 BAPTISM SIDE

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.

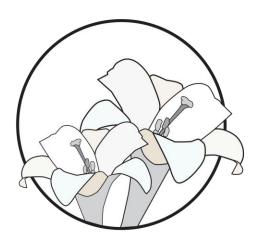
#### **V. 7 PULPIT SIDE**

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.

#### **V. 8 ALL**

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!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739-1799, abr. Text: Public domain



## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today: 9:00 Easter Breakfast, 10:30 AM Worship

Friday: 7 PM NELHS Musical – Wizard of Oz

**Sunday:** 9:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship with Communion,

11:30 AM Fellowship and Choir Practice 3 PM NELHS Musical – Wizard of Oz

Thanks - Breakfast, flowers

Pastor and Jane will be out of town the week after Easter. In case of emergency you may reach Pastor Haefner on his cell phone listed below.



Find us on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bethelyork">www.facebook.com/bethelyork</a>



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

**Given to the Lord**: Attendance: Worship 74, Facebook live 6, clicks 22. Audio/YouTube . Offerings: Operating: Needed 2,583.54, Given 1,977.50, NELHS 60.00, Trinity 120.00, Lent: Attendance:, Facebook Live , Clicks . Offerings: . **To God be the glory!** 

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