



Risen Christ Lutheran Church  
Second Sunday in Easter  
April 16, 2023 9:30am



*Risen Christ Lutheran Church*  
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170  
734.453.5252 [www.risenchrist.info](http://www.risenchrist.info)

**ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION** – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

**OFFERING** – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info)

**A WORD TO OUR GUESTS** – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

**Large Print Bulletins** – Available from an usher.

**Listening Assistance Devices** – Available at the Sound Booth.

**Parent Room** – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

**For Children** – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

**As We Gather** - We gather today still in the glow of the most joyous and amazing celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from the dead. The sights and sounds of that celebration linger in our memory, not as just a past event finished and forgotten, but as Peter calls it today, “a living hope,” as enduring and strong as the certainty of our living Lord and the promised future of our own resurrection. We return to continue the Easter celebration because in the afterglow of the days since Easter Sunday, many still do not know that hope. Like the absent apostle Thomas, we still face what seems to be a hopeless world. Today we remember that our only hope is built on a divine Savior whose crucifixion wounds were endured for us and for all. Indeed, we are to learn that every Sunday throughout the entire year is an Easter celebration as our living Lord draws us into His holy, life-giving wounds through His very same body and blood given us in Holy Communion. Thomas saw and believed. Peter rejoiced. Though we do not now see Him, “you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory” (1 Peter 1:8), the only sure and living hope.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Invocation**

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

C **Amen.**

**Call to Worship** – “**King of Kings**” (*Lyrics projected onto chancel walls*)

## Opening Sentences

1 Corinthians 15:54b-57

P "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory?"

C "O death, where is your sting?"

P The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

C **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Crown Him with Many Crowns



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.

- 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.

## Jesus Draw Me Close

Jesus draw me close  
Closer Lord to You  
Let the world around me fade away  
Jesus draw me close  
Closer Lord to You  
For I desire to worship and obey

CCLI Song # 443680

Rick Founds

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## Confession and Absolution

*1 John 1:8–9*

P That victory remains ours by a God-given faith and hope. That hope is kept alive as we daily repent of our sins and remain in the promises of God. For, 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.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, 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. We are afraid of losing hope. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, risen from the dead for the life of the world, 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 Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my 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.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C **Amen.**

## First Reading

*Acts 5:29–42*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men,

about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13*

L Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.  
C **Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!**  
L Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!  
C **Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!**  
L Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!  
C **Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.**  
L And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.  
C **Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,**  
L fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!  
C **Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!**  
L Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!  
C **Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!**  
L Young men and maidens together, old men and children!  
C **Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;**  
**His majesty is above earth and heaven.**  
L He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!  
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**  
L Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.

## Epistle

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of

your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse

*Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

C **Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.**

### **“Give Me Jesus”**

1. In the morning when I rise  
In the morning when I rise  
In the morning when I rise  
Give me Jesus

**CHORUS: Give me Jesus  
Give me Jesus  
You can have all this world  
(But give me Jesus)**

2. And when I am alone  
Oh and when I am alone  
And when I am alone  
Give me Jesus **CHORUS**

3. And when I come to die  
Oh and when I come to die  
And when I come to die  
Give me Jesus **CHORUS**

CCLI Song # 3295728

Fernando Ortega

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## Holy Gospel

*John 20:19–31*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter. C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>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.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;  
<sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sermon – “Believing Is Seeing”

### Apostles’ Creed

C **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 T everlasting. Amen.**

**Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info) – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.**

### Prayer of the Church

P *Let us pray* – O God, in the glorious joy of our continuing celebration of the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ from the dead, we give You thanks and sing Your praise. By His death, He destroyed death and by His rising now gives to all who believe the gift of eternal life in the forgiveness of our sins. Help us to walk with the certainty of a living hope of the eternal life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

P Give boldness to Your whole Church throughout the world that Your servants, especially Your pastors and teachers, proclaim the resurrection of Christ to all people as the objects of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, save and defend our country. Give wisdom and compassion to all in authority that they may serve all people with justice and provide for the maintenance of peace. Lord, in Your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

P Lovingly embrace all who gather to celebrate the remembrance of the most glorious death and resurrection of Your Son. Increase faith and hope in the hearts and minds of all who call upon You, especially all who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any adversity. By Your healing grace, defend us from every evil to body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

P We commend to Your mercy, O Lord, all Your servants who have departed with the sign of faith and now rest in the sleep of peace. Grant to them Your mercy and everlasting peace; and on the day of the resurrection of all flesh, grant that we and all Your servants of the mystical Body of Your Son, may altogether be set on His right hand and hear His most joyful voice saying, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” Lord, in Your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. C **Amen.**

## 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.**

## The Day of Resurrection



- 1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.  
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light  
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.  
All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,  
And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;  
Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.  
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.  
For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!  
And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

## Benediction

- 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 T give you peace.  
C **Amen.**

## Postlude - "King of Kings"

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.  
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