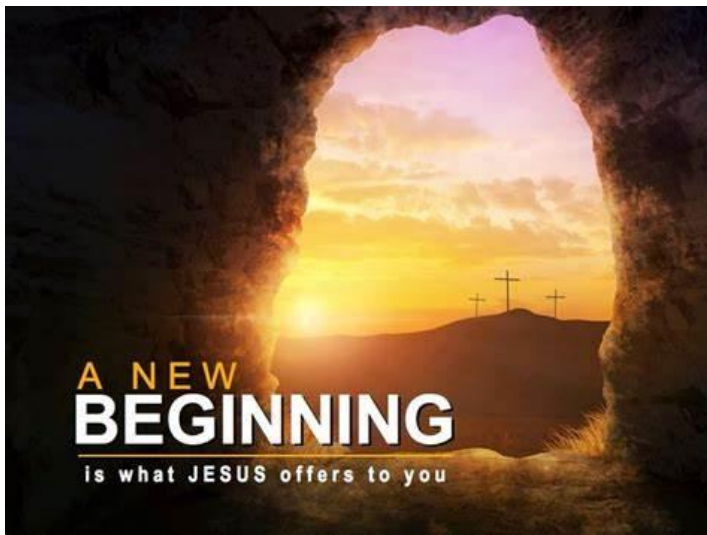




Risen Christ Lutheran Church
March 19, 2025 7pm
† Lenten Mid-week Service †

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTUARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.



Tonight we welcome:

Guest Preacher, Rev. David Stechholz, Bishop Emeritus of the English District LCMS

Lenten Midweek Series – Good News from the Beginning: The Gospel in Genesis

Tonight's Theme – *Good News of a Savior Who Has Given Us a New Beginning*

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.
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Acknowledgments

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ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted 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 and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice 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 through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and 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 (*to read quietly prior to the service*) – What are the odds of getting a do-over in our lives? In the world of sports, as in many other arenas, a second opportunity to begin again in a race or other type of competition is generally not possible. A false start in a race can lead to disqualification. Repositioning a move after completing one in a chess match is simply not permitted. Rules are rules, and that’s the way it is. There is no room for mercy. But it is different with our God, who offers forgiveness again and again to those who repent and turn to Him with contrite hearts. In his explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed in the Small Catechism, Martin Luther confidently writes, “In this Christian Church He [God] daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers” (*LSB*, p. 323). Thank God for His most gracious do-overs!

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **G Amen.**

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
taste Your king - dom’s plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Psalm 130

- P** Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!
- C** **O LORD, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**
- P** If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**
- P** I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;
- C** **my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**
- P** O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.
- C** **And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**
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.

Salutation and Prayer

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us pray.* Heavenly Father, by the death and resurrection of Your only Son, You have shown the world that the way of self-sacrifice is the way of life. Give us such a strong faith in Your providence that we will not shrink from any sacrifice You ask of us but rejoice to offer our lives to Him who gave His life for us—that is, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

Hymn Introduction

☐ The image of the freely flowing and life-giving fountain appears in a number of favorite Bible passages and hymns. The psalmist speaks of the Lord as he poetically writes, “For with You is the fountain of life” (Psalm 36:9), and hymn writer Johann Heermann describes God as the “true fountain ever flowing” in his hymn text “O God, My Faithful God” (*LSB* 696:1). In the first stanza of the Lenten hymn “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain,” author James Montgomery invites sinners to come to the “pure and healing fountain” (*LSB* 435:1) that flows from Jesus, our Savior. In the third stanza, Montgomery affirms that “Health this fountain will restore,” reminding us that Lent is a time for restoration and renewal in Christ.

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” first came into Christian Church usage in an English hymnbook called *A Selection of Psalms and Hymns for Public and Private Use*. The stanzas were simply titled “A fountain opened for sin and uncleanness” when first printed in 1819. James Montgomery wrote over 400 hymns. While still in his teens, he supported himself by publishing poetry, and later in life he was granted a literary pension by the British government. Though more than two hundred years old, his hymn stanzas compel us to come to the fountain of our Savior, with the promise “They that drink shall thirst no more” (*LSB* 435:3).

Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

First Reading Genesis 6

¹When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, ²the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. ³Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.” ⁴The

Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

⁵The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

⁹These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹²And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ¹⁵This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. ¹⁷For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. ²¹Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them." ²²Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

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

Prayer Response

P Let us pray.

We praise You, O God, for hearing our cries for mercy and answering them in Your forgiving grace. While You could justly keep a record of our sins, You instead wash them away in the cleansing flood of Jesus' blood. Kept safe in the ark of Your church, help us daily to find new hope in Your promises, for You have shown us Your unfailing love in the gift of Your Son, in whom there is full redemption; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **G** **Amen.**

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:13–22

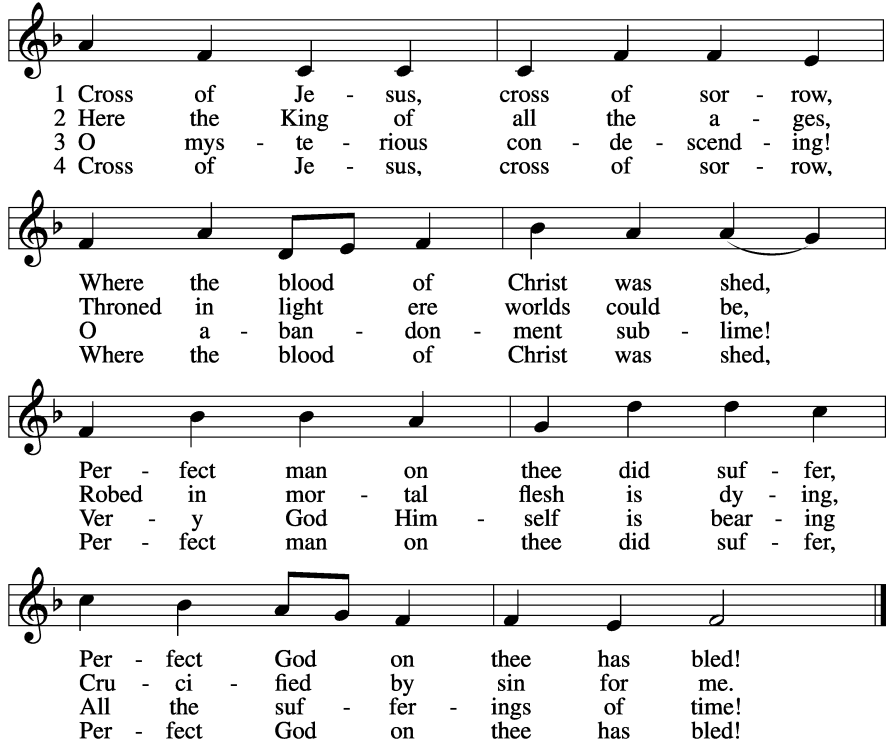
¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the

spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

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

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow



1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges,
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

Where the blood of Christ was shed,
 Throned in light ere worlds could be,
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,

Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing,
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,

Per - fect God on thee has bled!
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!

Verse 1 Peter 5:6–7

G Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

Holy Gospel Luke 17:22–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter. **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

²²And he said to the disciples, "The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. ²³And they will say to you, 'Look, there!' or 'Look, here!' Do not go out or follow them. ²⁴For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. ²⁵But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and

drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— ³⁰so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. ³¹On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. ³²Remember Lot's wife. ³³Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. ³⁴I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. ³⁵There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left." ³⁷And they said to him, "Where, Lord?" He said to them, "Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."

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

Sermon – “Good News of a Savior Who Has Given Us a New Beginning”

Apostles' Creed (*Words on screen*)

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at 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.

Passion Reading John 18:15–27

¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said." ²²When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **G** **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Litany

P Hear our prayer, O Lord. **G** **Let our cry come to You.**

P Almighty God, grant us true repentance over our sins **G** **and steadfast faith in Your forgiveness,**

P knowing that while we justly deserve Your punishment, **G** **You are a God who freely pardons.**

P When we are weighed down by guilt or despair, lift us up in Your mercy

G **and grant us a new beginning, standing in Your grace.**

- P** As You once gave the rainbow as a sign of Your mercy, **C** **draw our eyes to the cross of Christ,**
P that we may see in Him the assurance that Your mercies are new every morning
C **and Your faithfulness to us is great.**
P Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.

Silent prayer

- P** Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

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

- P** The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.
C **Amen.**

Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me!
 I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Dismissal

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**