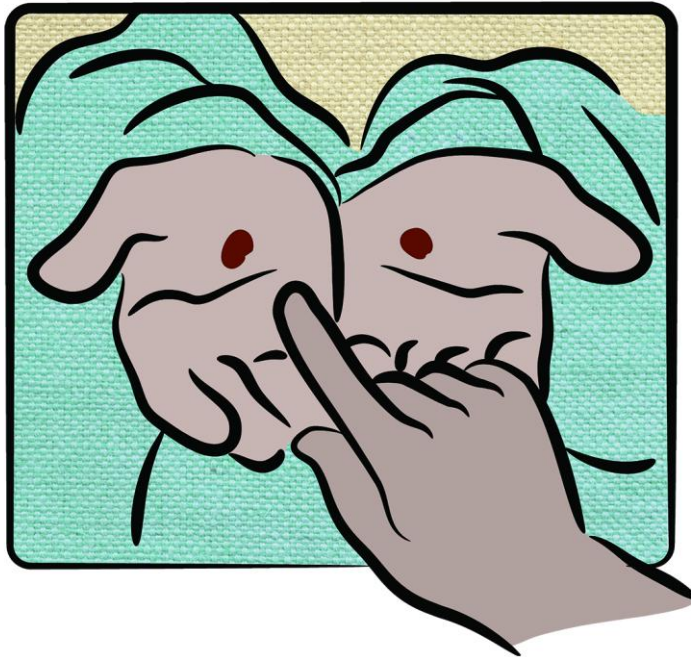




Risen Christ Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday of Easter Worship
April 27, 2025 9:30am

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



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

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 – Easter is not merely a day but a season, and every year we begin the rest of the story with John's description of Thomas and his encounter with the risen Lord. Perhaps this is descriptive of our attitude as a church and as individual believers. We daily wrestle with our doubts and fears, with what it means to believe and what it means to confess our faith openly in the world. Could it be that we are so conditioned by the reality that is death that we struggle to hold on to the new reality of life that is ours in Christ? Thomas found out that seeing is not believing, but believing is seeing. We daily struggle with this very same truth.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

Based on Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6; 1 Peter 2:2–3

- P** Alleluia! Christ has risen from the dead.
- C** God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.
- P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands.
- C** He has put all things under His feet.

- P** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,
C **that by it we may grow up to salvation, having tasted that the Lord is good.**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him Who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.
C **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

- P** 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 servant of 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.**
- P** May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord † be with you.
C **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name;

make known His deeds among the peoples!

Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;

tell of all His wondrous works!

Glory in His holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

Seek the Lord and His strength;

seek His presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that He has done,

His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,

He remembers His covenant forever,

the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations,

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.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

First Reading

Acts 5:12–20

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

[L] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

²**Praise him, all his angels;**

praise him, all his hosts!

³Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!

**⁴Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.

**⁶And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

**⁸fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!**

⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

**¹⁰Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**¹²Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

**¹⁴He 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!**

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4–18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are

in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Verse

Romans 6:9; John 20:29b

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.**

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁹On 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." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

³¹but 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.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

"St. Thomas' Powerful Confession of Faith... (Well...after that whole doubting thing...)"

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.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. That believing we may see, and seeing we may believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father, and that we may trust in Him without fear, let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

MEN – That we may proclaim without fear Jesus Christ crucified and risen, and that with words and deeds of witness others may come to hear of Jesus Christ and believe in Him, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

WOMEN – That those absent from the Lord's house may be restored to hear with us the good news of His Word and receive with us His very body and blood at His Table, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

MEN – That the preaching and teaching of all pastors and missionaries may be faithful, that God may raise up many for service to His kingdom, and that God may bless the president of our Synod, our District President, and our pastors, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

WOMEN – That the nations of the world may live in peace, that the people of the world may enjoy good government and freedom to worship the Lord without fear, and that God may bless our President, Congress, Governor, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

MEN – That those wounded in body or spirit may be healed, the suffering find relief, the grieving be comforted, and the dying be at peace in Christ, and all those whom we name before the Lord now in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

WOMEN – That the erring may be restored to the truth, the weary refreshed at the Lord's Table, and that all who commune may receive Christ's gifts with faith and live out their lives before Him in holy fear and good works, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

MEN – Remembering before the Lord those who died and now rest from their labors, let us rejoice in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P All these things for which we have prayed and all other things for which we have need, let us pray the Lord to grant us according to His mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Lift Up Your Hearts

- P** The Lord be with you **C** And also with you
P The Lord be with you **C** And also with you
P Lift up your hearts

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All Sing

We lift them to the Lord
Let us give thanks
To the Lord our God
It is right to give Him
Thanks and praise

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.**

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Communion

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**

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The Power of Your Love

Lord I come to You
Let my life be changed renewed
Flowing from the grace that I've found in You
And Lord I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me
Will be stripped away by the power of Your love

***CHORUS: Hold me close let Your love surround me
Bring me near draw me to Your side
And as I wait I'll rise up like the eagle
And I will soar with You Your Spirit leads me on
In the power of Your love***

Lord unveil my eyes
Let me see You face to face
The knowledge of Your love as You live in me
And Lord renew my mind as Your will unfolds in my life
In living every day by the power of Your love Chorus 2x

And I will soar with You
Your Spirit leads me on
In the power of Your love

Geoff Bullock CCLI Song # 917491
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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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Closing Prayer

In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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Benedicamus

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

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 ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

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