

LIVING LORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Our Mission Statement

“Living Lord Lutheran Church is a family of believers, renewed through the Holy Spirit, to be the real presence of the Risen Christ in this place, our community, and the world.”

PASTOR

The Rev. Gregory Shreaves, ELCA

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Adria Ryan

MUSICIAN EMERITUS

Pamela Wilcox

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION - 10:00 AM

Living Lord Lutheran Church is a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org.) With over 9,100 congregations and 4 million members throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands, we are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together. We are church for the sake of the world.

We believe and teach that Christ’s body and blood are truly present and are really given in, with, and under the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist. Communion at present is given in one kind – that is, the consecrated Body of Christ. It is given, along with the words spoken by the Presiding Minister, “The Body of Christ, the Blood of Christ.” Children and adults are invited to come forward to receive a blessing if you do not wish to receive the Sacrament.

Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all newcomers, as well as those returning home to Living Lord today. We do not consider newcomers to be visitors. This is the church of Jesus Christ, and there is a place for you here. We invite you to join the conversation, participate fully in the spiritual life of this community, and proclaim with us the Good News to all the world. Again, welcome to Living Lord Lutheran Church. If you are visiting today, please inform an usher or the Pastor. Restrooms are located in the hallway off the lobby of the church.

Pastor Greg’s contact information

email: gbsbuckeye1@gmail.com

Mobile phone: 610.295.9774



In the event of emergency, an AED device is located in the lobby/narthex of the church. You will find it on the wall leading to the restrooms.

Sunday, April 16th, 2023
Service of Holy Communion
Easter 2



WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE TODAY

As the music begins please silence your phones and end your conversation with your neighbor and begin your conversation with the LORD.

+ *Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

PRELUDE

“Rise Again”

by Dallas Holm

offered by Dan Panachyda

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the announcements, the assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Alleluia! Christ the Lord is risen today! C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.**

+ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Silence is kept from reflection before continuing...

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

P: God of grace and glory,



C: you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

P: Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and † frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!.

C: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

+ ENTRANCE HYMN

*“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing”
 v. 1-4*

+ APOSTOLIC GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: **And also with you.**

+ KYRIE

Kyrie

Mass of Remembrance

Marty Haugen

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the first line of the Kyrie: "Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son, Chri - ste e - le-i-son, Ky-ri-e e - le - i - son." The second staff contains the second line: "Je - sus Christ, have mer - cy: we ask for your for - giv - ness." The third staff contains the third line: "Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son, Chri - ste e - le-i-son, Ky-ri-e e - le - i - son." Chords are indicated above the notes: Dm, A7, Dm, Gm, Dm, A7, Dm on the first staff; F, C, Gm7, Asus4, A, A7 on the second staff; Dm, A7, Dm, Gm, Dm, A7, Dm on the third staff.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(The assembly prays together. A brief silence is kept before the prayer.)*

C: **Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The assembly is invited to be seated...

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.



FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

The reading is announced:

L: A reading from Acts.

The reading may be concluded:

L: The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 16

In your presence there is fullness of joy. (*Ps. 16:11*)

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names up on my lips. R**

⁵O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who hold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

The reading is announced:

L: A reading from 1st Peter.

The reading may be concluded:

L: The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION v. 5 only

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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+GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the 20th Chapter.

The reading may be concluded:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON Eric Mumford

Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

+ NICENE CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders (*especially*). Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love (*especially*). Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The Presiding Minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words:

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

+THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The peace is shared by remaining in place and bowing, waving, extending a hand to those around you.

The service continues with the Offering.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



THE OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared. All are invited to place their offering in the offering plates in the lobby/narthex of the church either prior to entering the worship space, or on the way out of the church. All are invited into quiet reflection as the Offertory is played.

OFFERTORY

“Forever”

**by Brian Johnson/Joel Taylor/Jean Johnson/Gabriel Wilson/
Christa Black Gifford/Brooke Jobe
offered by Kirsten Panachyda**

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ OFFERING PRAYER

A: 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, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

+ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister offers the Words of Institution over the bread and wine...

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ **PREFACE**

P: 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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Great Thanksgiving

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

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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The Presiding Minister continues...

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
All: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
All: Amen.

P: And now we pray boldly as our LORD Christ taught us to pray:

+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.

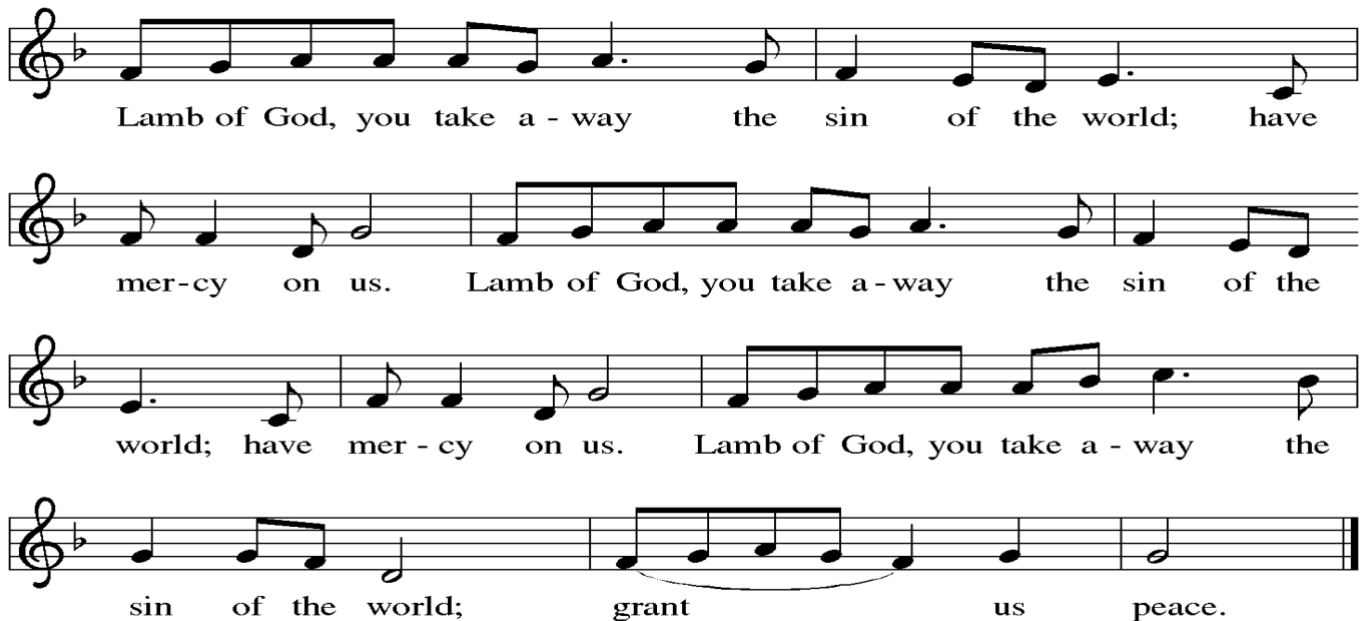
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)



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.

The assembly is invited to be seated for the distribution of the Sacrament . . .

The Sacrament is distributed. Worshipers will come forward, respecting social distancing, to receive a host from the Presiding Minister, and moving to the right, receive the wine from the Assisting Minister. Proceed to the right of the church as you face it, depositing the used wine container into the receptacle provided.

As the Presiding Minister offers these words, “The body of Christ, given for you”, and the Assisting Minister offers these words, “The blood of Christ, shed for you” each is invited to respond with “Amen.”

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the assembly is invited to sing below:

COMMUNION HYMN

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”
ELW #392

After the distribution of the Sacrament is completed, all are invited to stand as you are able...

+ P: The body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. C: **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



+BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

P: You are what God made you to be:

Created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you + that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

C: **Amen.**

The assembly is invited to be seated for Ministry Announcements.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Thine is the Glory”
ELW #376

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. C: **Thanks be to God.**

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GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 16, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

A Wild, Skeptical Hope

“Doubting Thomas” is nearly always meant as a pejorative, but Jesus shows up for him. It’s easy to forget that Thomas is asking for nothing more than what Jesus has already provided to his friends—showing up for them, in the flesh. When he does the same for Thomas and Thomas exclaims, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28), Jesus responds, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe” (John 20:29). It’s easy to hear this as if Jesus were chastising Thomas while he blesses the rest of us, but he does no such thing. He can show up for Thomas and bless the rest of us all at the same time.

Can you even imagine what those days must have been like—those days between the crucifixion and resurrection, and then the days that followed, full to the brim with confusion and grief and rumors and wild, skeptical hope? Two thousand years can make us forgetful, as if those who were present in those moments had the luxury of knowing the entire story all at once, the way we do.

But they didn’t. Regardless, Thomas believed in a God big enough to carry his doubts and uncertainty. He trusted that God was big enough to hold all his questions and his hope. What are the big doubts you carry? What are your questions? What kind of wild, skeptical hopes do you have, that you hardly dare to utter out loud, even to your closest friends? Do they feel any different when you stop to wonder about letting God carry them with you? Here, at the beginning of the Easter season, God has shown us that very little is truly impossible. Thomas believed as much, and he had the courage to ask for it. Jesus shows up in response to Thomas’s bold ask, and through this witness, he blesses the rest of us.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Eric Mumford for offering us the message today!

Also, thanks to Dan and Kirsten Panachyda who brought their musical gifts to worship this morning. Thanks to you all!