



*The Lord is
risen indeed*

Sunday, March 31, 2013/Easter Day

Resurrection of Our Lord

INTRODUCTION

"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." God has indeed raised from the dead the one who was put to death "by hanging him on a tree." Alleluia! God allows Jesus to appear "to us who were chosen by God as witnesses" in holy baptism and invites us to eat and drink at the table of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope,
be with you all.

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN:

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

365 ELW

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

P: Thank you, our Father, God, for the news of Easter;

C: We rejoice in the resurrection story, O God.

P: We are humbled by the magnificence of new life;

C: And we ask for continual renewal of life, O Father.

P: For the joy that sprang from the grave; for the happiness that Jesus' friends felt when He recognized them and called them by name and for the blessing of knowing him,

C: We give you thanks; O God.

P: Rekindle in us, this Easter, the faith you have so generously bestowed upon us through your Holy Spirit;

C: That our feelings, thoughts, words, and deeds may be directed by our trust in you, O Father.

P: Shower upon the whole earth, Magnificent God, the resurrection news:

C: That even where people do not know your Son, he may instill justice, at the very least, and merciful loving kindness, if possible, in the minds and hearts of all people.

P: At this season of the year, when the best news of all is proclaimed again and again, let it especially be heard by those who are sick;

C: By those who are troubled, in any way;

P: By those who are distressed in mind or spirit;

C: By those who are dying;

P: By those who are grieving for a loved one already called to triumphant life with you;

C: By all, O Father, who, in any way, need even stronger reassurance that yours is the victory over everything that can possibly destroy us.

P: Reassure them, and us that ours, too, is the same victory through Christ, whom we have accepted in faith.

ALL: Unto you, O God, Father, Son and Spirit, we give praise and honor now and forever. Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Every Valley"

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34–43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, sums up the essential message of Christianity. Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is

Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Refrain: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

(Ps. 118:24)

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. R

The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but **did** not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

R

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. **R**

GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of his women followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

HYMN: **"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"** **# 619 ELW**

SERMON: **Surprise in a Graveyard**

HYMN: **"Thine is the Glory"** **# 376 ELW**

OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered around Christ crucified and risen, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

A time for silent prayer.

Awaken the church, that it may boldly proclaim the new creation we celebrate on this resurrection day. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Raise up political and civic leaders who will bring forth a springtime of care for the poor and those most vulnerable among us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Deepen our reverence for the earth and all its creatures, that we may marvel at your works and rejoice at each new day. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Draw to your heart all those weighed down by grief, illness, or anxiety; those absent or forgotten; and those homebound or hospitalized (*especially*); that the light of Christ may shine upon them with hope. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Be known to us as we eat and drink at your table, that we may live as the risen body of Christ in the world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

We give thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed the resurrection through their words, music, and art. May your creative Spirit renew our lives with your beauty and grace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resound" # 367 ELW

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF MARCH 31ST, 2013

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Lloyd & Shirley Lilienthal
Ushers: 8:30 Skip & Lynn Hansen, 10:00 Chuck & Elsa Carlson
Lectors: 8:30 Jeannine Bruesewitz, 10:00 Darlene Christensen
Coffee Servers: Ron & Evie Richter, Bill & Judy Wuorio

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (3/24/13)

Attendance: 8:30 – 85 10:00 – 56
Offering: \$ 3,141.00 Building: \$ 1,000.00

\$ 3,077.00 – Weekly amount needed for operating expenses.

\$ 580.00 – Weekly amount (building fund) needed for mortgage payment.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA MARCH 31ST THRU APRIL 6TH, 2013

Mon., Apr. 1 st	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Apr. 2 nd	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., Apr. 3 rd	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	11:00 a.m.	NO Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Thurs., Apr. 4 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	10:30 a.m.	Worship & Music
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE & CAKE will be served between services today in honor of Ron Richter's 70th birthday. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RON!!**

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP—A new 4-week series will begin April 4th 4:30-6:00 p.m. See bulletin board for further information.

CHECK BULLETIN BOARD for posted announcements.

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will grow spiritually and in numbers as we serve Christ.
We will reach out and address the hurts and hopes in our community.
We will maintain a church home that is reverently joyous and extend a
welcome to all who seek to join us in our mission.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance