

Easter Day

March 31, 2024



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Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!

- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School Room (located in the back-corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

Serving the Lord

Pastor: Rev. Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: Jesus' resurrection stands as the foundational truth of Christianity, and the Christian's highest source of joy and comfort.

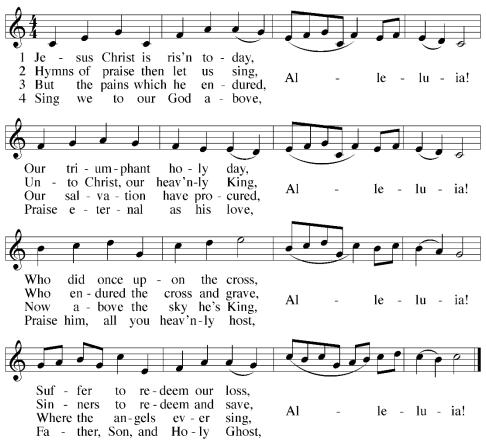
We Come into the Presence of God

PASTOR'S GREETING AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.

OPENING HYMN: 157 Jesus Christ is Risen Today



Text: Latin hymn, 14th century, st. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707–88, st. 4; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, st. 1-3, alt. Tune: EASTER HYMN (77 77 with Alleluias) *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, alt.

INVOCATION

Minister: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ: On this joyous morning, we celebrate that our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life. We join with all of God's people in recalling and celebrating his victory over death, and our deliverance from the bondage of sin and darkness to everlasting light.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: Even on this most joyous of days, it is proper to remember and admit our sin, which cost our Savior the precious life that he picks back up today. It was our sin that caused his suffering and death, and his resurrection that assures us that the Father has accepted his sacrifice for our sins.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you, and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me, according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the innocent death and glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. We live because Jesus lives. May God give us strength to live according to his will.
- C: Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

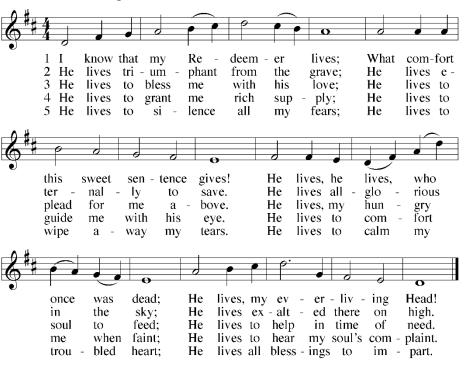
FIRST LESSON

Job 19:23-27

Every Christian echoes Job's confidence that our Redeemer lives, so we will, too – standing on the earth, seeing him with our own eyes.

Oh how I wish that my words were written down. Oh how I wish that they were inscribed in bronze, ²⁴ that they would be engraved in rock forever with an iron tool and letters filled with lead. ²⁵ As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the end of time he will stand over the dust. ²⁶ Then, even after my skin has been destroyed, nevertheless, in my own flesh I will see God. ²⁷ I myself will see him. My own eyes will see him, and not as a stranger. My emotions are in turmoil within me.

HYMN: 152 I Know that My Redeemer Lives



- He lives and loves me to the end. He lives, and while he lives I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death. He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.
 - 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: "I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99, abr.

Tune: DUKE STREET (LM) attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 118

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

² Let Israel say now: Yes, his mercy endures forever.

³ Let the house of Aaron say now: Yes, his mercy endures forever.

⁴ Let those who fear the LORD say now: Yes, his mercy endures forever.

⁵ Under pressure I cried to the LORD.

The LORD answered me.

He set me in a wide-open space.

⁶The LORD is with me.

I will not be afraid.

What can people do to me?

⁷The LORD, who is with me, is my helper,

so I will look in triumph on my enemies.

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in people.

⁹ It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in human benefactors.

¹⁰ All the nations surrounded me.

but in the name of the LORD I cut them off.

11 They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me,

but in the name of the LORD I cut them off.

12 They surrounded me like bees,

but they were extinguished as quickly as a fire of thorns.

In the name of the LORD I cut them off.

13 You pushed me hard to make me fall,

but the LORD helped me.

14 My strength and song is the LORD,

and he has become salvation for me.

¹⁵ Loud shouts of victory are heard in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD has done a mighty deed!

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is lifted high!

The right hand of the LORD has done a mighty deed!"

¹⁷ I will not die. No, I will live,

and I will proclaim the works of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD has chastened me severely,

but he has not handed me over to death.

¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness.

I will enter them. I will give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate to the LORD.

The righteous enter it.

²¹ I will give you thanks,

because you answered me,

and you have become salvation for me.

²² The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

²³ This is from the LORD.

It is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day the LORD has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ O LORD, please save us now.

O LORD, grant us success.

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he makes light shine on us.

Bind the festival with branches as far as the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give you thanks.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.

SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. ²² For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." ²⁶ Death is the last enemy to be done away with.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia! (*Psalm 118:24*)

STAND

GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

M: The Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 16.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. ² Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. ³ They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶He said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

⁸They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

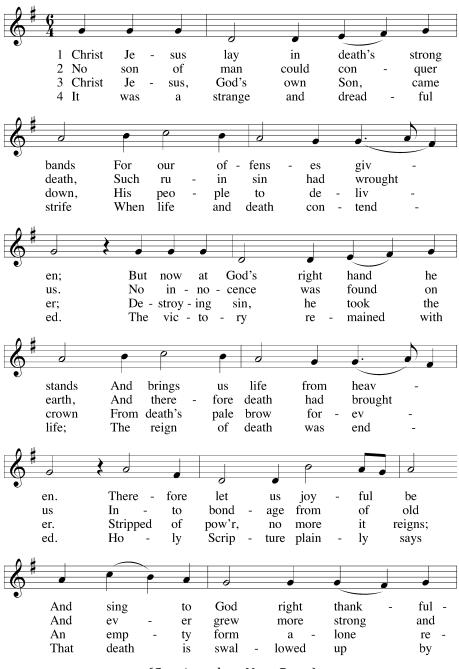
M: The Gospel of our Lord.

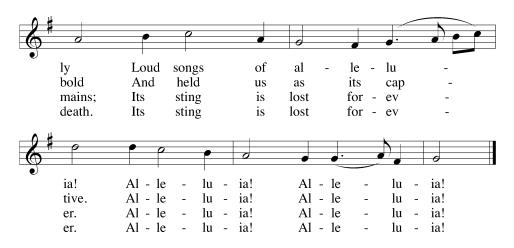
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON: "There We Will See Him, Too"

HYMN OF THE DAY: 720 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands, verses 1-5





Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
 Whom God so freely gave us;
 He died on the accursed tree—
 So strong his love—to save us.
 See, his blood now marks our door;
 Faith points to it; death passes o'er,
 And Satan cannot harm us.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 So let us keep the festival
To which the Lord invites us;
Christ is himself the joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
The night of sin is ended.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERMON

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Theme: "Jesus' Resurrection is Biggest and Best"

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your pew.

The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.

HYMN: 160 This Joyful Eastertide



Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934.

Tune: VRUECHTEN (67 67 with Refrain) Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and renew daily in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

- M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.
- C: Alleluia! For our Lord God almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.

Special prayers

LORD'S PRAYER

- C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.
- M: Almighty God, you destroyed sin and death through the death of your Son, and through his resurrection restored innocence and eternal life, so that, delivered from the devil's power, we may live eternally in your kingdom. Grant that we may believe this with our whole heart and remain steadfast in this faith, always thanking and praising you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 720 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands, verses 6-7

- 5 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
 Whom God so freely gave us;
 He died on the accursed tree—
 So strong his love—to save us.
 See, his blood now marks our door;
 Faith points to it; death passes o'er,
 And Satan cannot harm us.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 So let us keep the festival
 To which the Lord invites us;
 Christ is himself the joy of all,
 The sun that warms and lights us.
 Now his grace to us imparts
 Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
 The night of sin is ended.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 Then let us feast this Easter Day
 On Christ, the bread of heaven;
 The Word of grace has purged away
 The old and evil leaven.
 Christ alone our souls will feed;
 He is our meat and drink indeed;
 Faith lives upon no other!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

This important and historic Easter text is set to a new tune with the hope of reviving its use within the church.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt.

Tune: NORTHRIDGE (87 87 78 744) Kermit Moldenhauer, b. 1949 © 2005 Kermit Moldenhauer. All rights reserved.

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Find us online at www.facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Potluck Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt Today!

Between worship services today there will be a potluck breakfast and Easter egg hunt for kids; there will be no Bible class or Sunday School today.

Trinity's Little Free Library – Food Donations Needed

Donations of shelf-stable foods are particularly needed currently for Trinity's Little Free Library. As food prices climb, many families in the surrounding neighborhoods are experiencing food scarcity. For the past few months, the food shelf of our Little Free Library has been emptying out every single week. Items that are especially needed include canned or boxed food that does not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the fellowship room beside the door to the hallway.

Vacation Bible School Registration OPEN!

Registration is now open for this year's VBS, which will be held July 15-19 from 9:00-11:30 am. Come join us for Scuba VBS where we will dive into an amazing undersea adventure and experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. We look forward to sharing God's Word, singing songs, making crafts, playing games, and of course, having some awesome snacks together! VBS is for kids ages 3 (and potty trained) to those entering 6th grade in the fall. Kids entering 7th grade and older may volunteer as helpers. Please register here: https://vbspro.events/p/events/trinity24 or scan this QR Code!



Wine and Word Bible Study – April 18

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm. We are studying the book of Revelation with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and a small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or dawn.f.knox@gmail.com to RSVP.

Seeking District Convention Delegate

The North Atlantic District Convention will be held June 4-5 at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Chesapeake, VA. Trinity is seeking a confirmed male member to represent our congregation. All costs are reimbursed by the congregation. If you are interested, please speak to Pastor. The deadline to register a delegate is Sunday, April 28.

Women's Bible Study on Esther

The remaining dates for the Women's Bible Study on Esther are:

April 13 at 9:00 am (Chapter 6)

May 11 at 9:00 am (Chapter 7)

The Women's Bible Study meets at Trinity. We are discussing the book "Esther: Providential Persian Queen" by Lou Ann Mokwa. Please join us anytime!

Save the date!

Trinity's annual church-wide yard sale will be held Saturday, May 4. Start gathering up your clothing, shoes, housewares, books, and other items that you would like to donate! Watch for more details in April. All proceeds go to the Sunday School mission offering.

Trinity Book Club will meet again on Saturday, April 27, at 9:30 am at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries to discuss *Up from Dust* by Heather Kaufman. Any questions? Ask Rachel Kovaciny.

Small Choir

Trinity's small choir sings about once a month during worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Matt Popelier. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org

Lord's Supper Available to All Members

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or revpauljenkins@yahoo.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work



A Truly Happy Ending!

https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20210416/

Imagine if the following movies ended this way:

- The glass slipper was accidentally dropped and shattered. Prince Charming ended up marrying one of Cinderella's stepsisters.
- Aladdin foolishly wasted his third and final wish on a Cherry Icee. The genie remains trapped in the lamp.
- Luke Skywalker's mission to destroy the reactor system of the Death Star failed. The Empire still rules the galaxy.

What a difference it would make for some of our favorite stories if these events were how they finished. They certainly wouldn't be the feel-good movies, with a happy ending, that we love to watch over and over again.

Paul was dealing with individuals in the Corinthian church who were denying the happy ending of Easter. They were arguing that people are not able to be risen from the dead. What a devastating ending for Christians if true!

If people cannot be raised from the dead, that means Jesus did not rise from the dead. If Jesus did not come back to life that would mean our faith would be in a still dead Savior which would be pointless. We would remain lost in our sins and our hope of living eternally in heaven would be a false confidence. Praise be to God that the message of Easter is not just a made-up story to make us feel better. It is an undeniable fact that Jesus physically rose from the dead. There were hundreds of eyewitnesses who saw Jesus in the flesh before he returned to heaven. Paul was so sure because he himself saw his risen Savior. The happy ending to Easter will never change!

The truth of Jesus' resurrection means everything for us. On judgment day, everyone who ever lived will be raised from the dead. Those who have received the gift of faith in Jesus as their Savior will be joined with him in heaven. The best part of this happy ending for believers is that there is no ending. In the perfection of heaven, we will live forever with no end. There are still many people today who don't believe in the resurrection of the dead, but we can have complete assurance that because Jesus lives, we also will live forever.

Questions for Consideration

- What does it mean that people were eyewitnesses of Jesus resurrection?
- What do you think heaven will be like?
- What would it mean for believers if Jesus didn't truly rise from the dead?
- Why can we be confident that Jesus did truly rise from the dead?
- How does the assurance of Jesus' resurrection provide us comfort as we face challenges throughout our life?
- What can we learn from Paul as he defended the truth of the resurrection with those in the Corinth congregation who denied it?

It is the mission of



to glorify God

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word

to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.