

**The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
(Easter Sunday)**

April 4, 2021

in the 168th Year of the Parish

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market St., Williamsport, PA (17701)

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Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

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Our Mission: “To know Christ and to make Christ known.”

An Order of Holy Communion, 8 am and 10:30 am

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

Largo

Prelude in a Classic Style

G. F. Handel

Gordon Young

THE EASTER GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.**

Water is poured into the font as the pastor gives thanks.

**P We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,**

leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.
C Amen

***HYMN Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*,
Tune: EASTER HYMN

*GREETING

P The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE

[A] In peace, let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.

[A] For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

[C] Lord, have mer - cy.

[A] For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

[C] Lord, have mer - cy.

[A] For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.

[A] Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. [C] A - men

*THIS IS THE FEAST

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and

strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ For the Lamb who was

slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen**

THE FIRST LESSON.....Acts 10:34-43

34Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how 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. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not 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. 42He 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. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

1Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;

God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

2Let Israel | now declare,

“God’s mercy en- | dures forever.”

14The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

**15Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:
“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**

16The right hand of the LORD| is exalted!
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”

**17I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD.**

18The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

**19Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

20“This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

**21I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation.**

22The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

**23By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

24This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

THE SECOND LESSON.....1 Corinthians 15:1-11

1Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

3For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, 4and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, 5and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle,

because I persecuted the church of God. 10But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....Mark 16:1-8**

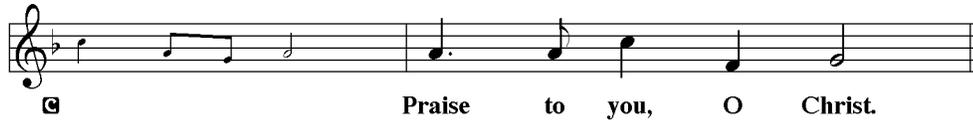
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

1When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. 2And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" 4When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. 6But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." 8So they went out and

fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***THE NICENE CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope we affirm our faith:

**C 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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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: Hear Us, O God/Your Mercy is Great.**

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace, with masks in place, avoiding physical touch and consciously staying six feet apart from one another.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

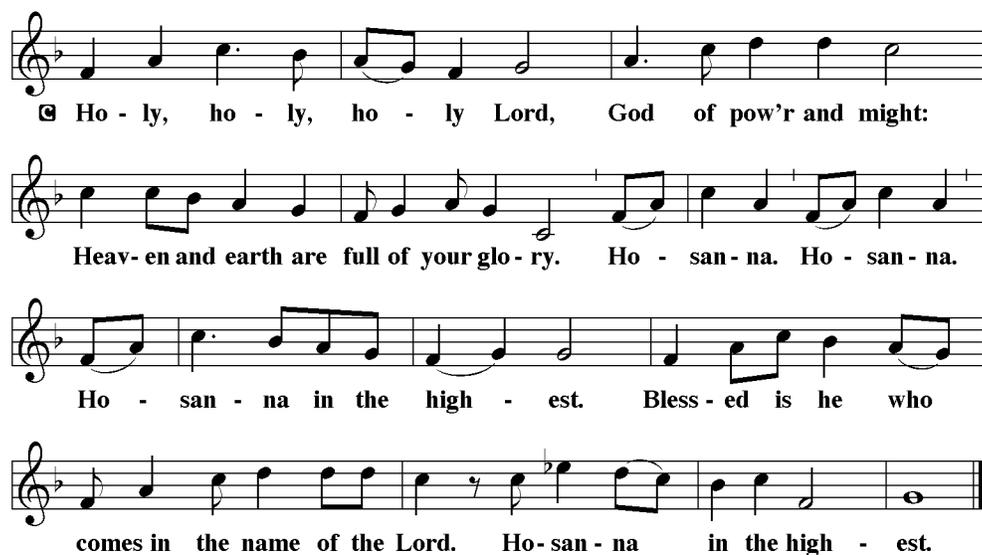
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take

away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene, Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels, and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

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.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave 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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

C Amen

THE COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Musical score for "Lamb of God" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE BLESSING**

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen

***HYMN The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won!
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909
Tune: VICTORY

***DISMISSAL**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *Toccata from Symphony V* Charles-Marie Widor

+++++

Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Ruth Pile, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Gladys Knauss, Patricia Alexander, Joann Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bernadette Jones, Gregg, Kay Poliska, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, George Kissinger, the Family of Edward Cioffi.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

LECTORS 8 am Lou DeSeau/10:30 am Pam Jensen
CANTOR/SONG LEADER Sadie Wentzel
ORGANIST Sam Robinson

USHERS: April 4

8 am Dick Miller, Herb Poff
10:30 am Matt Fortin- Captain, Glenn Yapple, Bud Doebler

Our Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God:
In loving memory of Russell and Catherine Goertz by the Family.
In loving Memory of Sally Ann Millixan by Sally Bjornstad.

Our Stewardship (3/28/2021)

Regular Offering	\$3,451
Plate Offering	\$ 40
Lent	\$ 241
Bulletin Sponsor	\$ 10
Sunday School Offering	\$ 17
World Hunger	\$ 10
Food Pantry	\$ 50
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 20
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$ 55

GRAND TOTAL **\$3,894**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Camp Mt. Luther is gearing up for Summer 2021! Camping brochures, information regarding openings for staff and volunteers and special events held at the camp are available from our Church Office (570-323-4619).

By action of our Congregational Council, Sunday in-person worship and Sunday Church School have resumed (Worship, 8:00 am and 10:30 am; Church School, 9:15 am). Please follow all CDC and St. Mark protocols which include mask-wearing, social distancing, singing and speaking in very low tones. Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact our church office (570-323-4619).

COVID CONTACT: Please note that your attendance at both of the worship services will be recorded. This serves as a precaution in case contact tracing due to the pandemic is warranted. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

COMEMMORATIONS

Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Born a slave on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time

Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community.

Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Friday, April 9, 2021

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Saturday, April 10, 2021

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.