

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11 & 12, 2026

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(8:30) CALL TO WORSHIP – Danny Bos

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

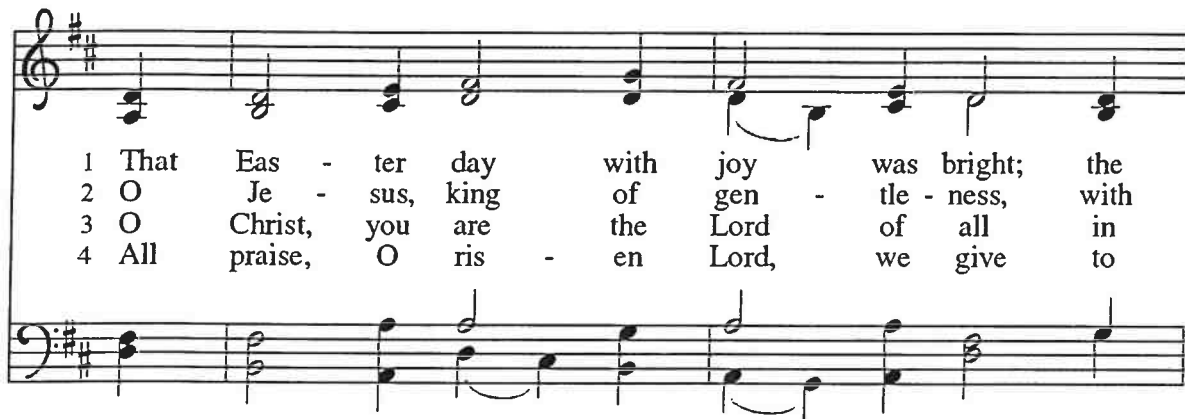
Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

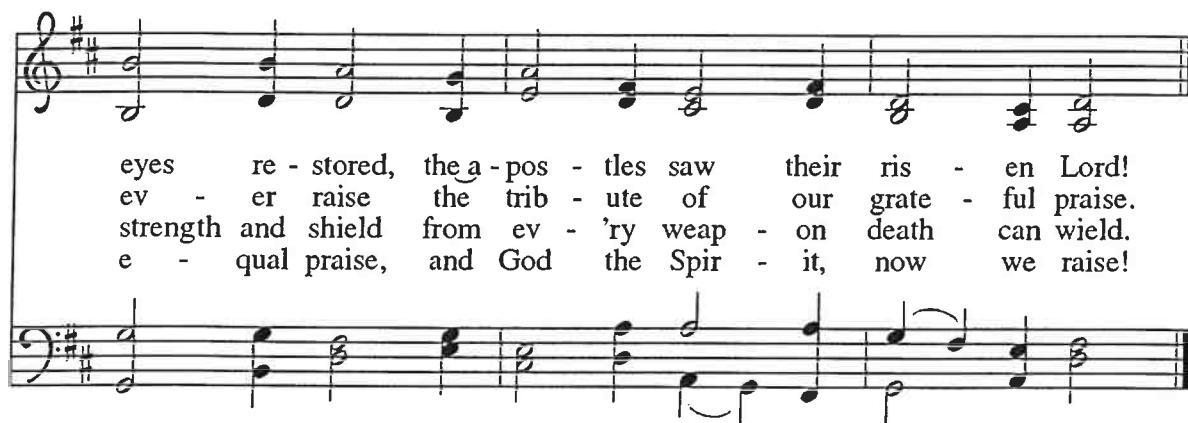
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever. **Amen.**



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

GREETING

Christ has called us to this place,
gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit

**We are followers of Christ
who seek to hear the Word,
live the Word, and share the Word.**

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

5:30 Praise Team
8:30 Emma Milbrath
11:00 Jaxon Roberts

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

²⁵ For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 16

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

¹ Protect 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.**

³ But 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.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

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

⁷ I 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.**

⁹ My 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.**

¹¹ You 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.

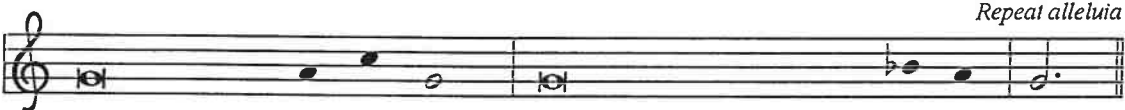
³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 198)



The holy gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.
Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!

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.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Pr. Celeste

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Walk by Faith

(ELW 635)



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near, and seek where you are found:
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

For by Grace You Have Been Saved

(ELW 598)



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
 God's great gift." A - men.
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper
 Music: ARMOLAULU, Kari Tikka
 Text and music © Fennica Gehrman, admin. Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. In your bountiful grace you have given us a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Sustain us by your Spirit, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (*especially*)

Mel Satnan, Stephany Sanborn, Lacey Mescher, Dawn Jensen, Pam Schulte, John Myre, John Robbins, Sandi Mitchem, Both Dak, Laury Detro, Keith Ashbaugh, Neena Kraemer-Solberg, Becky Taylor, Seth Thompson

Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant, *especially we remember Pat Peterson and Greg Andersen*. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

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.**

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

(ELW 364)

M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.

m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
You look for Je - sus who is not here.

A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go,
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.

m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.
e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
and in its con - quest his might did show.
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain

Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save. Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: Tanzanian traditional

Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress; English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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