

# **Easter Sunrise Service**

**March 31, 2024**

**6:30 AM**



**He Is Risen!**

Grace Lutheran Church  
1787 Klerner lane  
New Albany, Indiana 47150  
(812) 944-1267  
[glcna.org](http://glcna.org)  
Pastor Bruce Kischnick  
Pastor Matt Woods

**Grace Lutheran Church  
Easter “Sonrise” Service  
6:30 AM with Communion  
March 31, 2024**

**Where Friday Left Off...**

**The Burial of Christ**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Luke 23:50-56**

<sup>50</sup> Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, <sup>51</sup> who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. <sup>52</sup> Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body. <sup>53</sup> Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. <sup>54</sup> It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. <sup>55</sup> The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. <sup>56</sup> Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Pastor:** Beloved in the Lord! You and I gathered here this morning in a spirit of holy joy and expectation?

**People:** **We first remember that the first Easter started with the mourning of the women. They expected to continue the burial process with spices but discovered instead an empty tomb and a Risen Savior.**

**Pastor:** This morning our sadness is turned into eternal joy. Christ is Risen!

**People:** **He is risen indeed!**

**OPENING HYMN: “Hail Thee Festival Day” LSB 489**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF RESURRECTION AND VICTORY:**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: If Christ has not been raised your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

**People: But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead!**

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

**People: "He who believes in Me will live, even though He dies; and whoever believes in me will never die!"**

Pastor: We were therefore buried with Christ through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

**People: If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we certainly be united with Him in His resurrection"**

Pastor: Christ is Risen.

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: The uncountable multitudes of nations and peoples stand before the Lamb upon his throne and cry out with a loud voice:

**People: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne and to the Lamb!'**

**HYMN: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461 vs. 5, 7**

## **CONFESSION OF OUR SINS & RECEIVING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: The transformation of our lives and God's world begins with the acknowledgement that Jesus is the Lord who overcame sin, death, and the devil. By confession of our sins, we are also asking for God's gracious forgiveness. With sincere hearts and midst, let us confess our sins.

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the victor over death and the grave. You have risen from the tomb. We also want to rise victoriously over the**

**death and defeat we face every day. We therefore confess, that we so easily live only for ourselves. We have neglected to live wholeheartedly for You and others. We have trapped ourselves in the tombs of self-centeredness and we need the power of your forgiveness. Roll away the stone of our sin and crush the hardness of our heart so that we do not suffocate our souls. Raise us to new life and by Your death and resurrection make us alive in You; Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

**Pastor:** Jesus has carried our sins to His own death. His sacrifice is complete and full. He has won the victory! He is Your living, personal, and sure Redeemer. Hardened hearts are crushed! Stone walls of sin have been rolled away! Alleluia! In Jesus' name, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen. We have been forgiven! We have been restored to new life in Christ! Alleluia!

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

### **PRAYER FOR THE DAY: (Spoken Together)**

**Almighty God, Heavenly Father, through Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ You have overcome our sin, death, and the power of the devil, and opened up to us the gate of Everlasting life. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy this victorious day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised to new life in You; We pray through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, both now and forever. Amen.**

**+++WORD+++**

### **OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 25:6-9 (Death will be swallowed up)**

**<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare  
a feast of rich food for all peoples,  
a banquet of aged wine—**

the best of meats and the finest of wines.

<sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy  
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,  
the sheet that covers all nations;

<sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever.  
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears  
from all faces;  
he will remove his people's disgrace  
from all the earth.

The LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> In that day they will say,  
“Surely this is our God;  
we trusted in him, and he saved us.  
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;  
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 (Death has been swallowed up)**

<sup>51</sup> Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—

<sup>52</sup> in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. <sup>53</sup> For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

<sup>55</sup> “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL HYMN: “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465**

### **GOSPEL: John 20:1-9 (The Empty Tomb)**

<sup>1</sup>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. <sup>2</sup>So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” <sup>3</sup>So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. <sup>4</sup>Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, <sup>7</sup>as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. <sup>8</sup>Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup>(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **AN EASTER MESSAGE: Pastor Matthew Woods**

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH: An Easter Creed**

**I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who sent His Son as my Savior to rise on Easter Morning. 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, died on Good Friday, Rose again on Easter morning to free me from the curse of sin and the sting of death, and the power of the devil. I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Easter, and by whose continuous work in my heart I am ever led to be steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of my resurrected Lord. Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today LSB 457 vs. 1 & 4**

## THE PRAYERS

### LORD'S PRAYER

+++ SACRAMENT +++

#### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: and also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

#### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has opened to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**SANTCUS—Tune...Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing LSB 475**

**Holy are You, the heav'nly King!**

**With angel hosts we join to sing,**

**"Your majesty fills ev'rything!"**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Holy are You, O Lord most high!**

**Blessed is He who now draws nigh**

**In God's own name! With joy we cry:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** And also with you.

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**“At the Lamb’s High Feast” LSB 633**

**“He’s Risen, He’s Risen” LSB 480**

## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**Pastor:** We give thanks and praise to You, gracious Lord, for Your mercy is truly eternal. We are especially grateful for the gift of life which we have just celebrated at Your invitation. Strengthen us now through the very body and blood that has been received that we may celebrate our Christian faith in our lifestyle and as a way of life. By the power of the Holy Spirit make us able to live in the hope of the resurrection until at last we too may awake to the face of our Lord, Jesus Christ in all eternity. In the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** AMEN.

## **THE BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING: “Glorious Day” (Choir & Congregation)**

## **EASTER BREAKFAST**

**Fellowship Hall**

**7:00 AM – 10:15 AM.**

**Please join us!**