

**Cross of Christ Lutheran Church**  
**204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN**  
**507-896-3102**

**Easter Sunday Worship Service w/Holy Communion/FB**  
**March 31, 2024**



**Monday:** Office Closed  
**Tuesday:** Office Closed  
**Wednesday:** 11:00 Prayer Group  
**No Confirmation/Club 56**  
**Thursday:**  
**Friday:** Pastor's Day Off  
**Saturday:**  
**Sunday:** 8:30 Choir  
9:30 Second Sunday of Easter Worship Service w/Holy  
Communion/Noisy Offering/FB

*Cross of Christ Mission Statement: As a fellowship of believers, it is our mission to joyfully proclaim the gospel of Christ in word and deed; inviting people to worship together, nurturing them in the Christian faith, loving one another and serving a world in need.*

## Prelude

## Ringling of the Church Bell

## Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

### Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

## Gathering Song: ELW #369 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!" with Brass

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled,  
Alleluia!  
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
when contending death and life, Alleluia!  
met in strange and awesome strife.  
Alleluia!

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!  
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

## Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Choir Anthem – “On the Third Day” with Bells and Brass

### Reading: Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>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; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

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

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

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

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

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

<sup>20</sup>“This is the gate of the LORD;

here the righteous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: Mark 16:1-8**

P: The holy gospel according to Mark. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When 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]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But 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.

<sup>7</sup>But 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.” <sup>8</sup>So 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. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Dana Jackson**

## Hymn of the Day: Hymn #523 "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet"

(Refrain)

**Let us go now to the banquet,  
to the feast of the universe.  
The table's set and a place is waiting;  
come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to  
share.**

1 I will rise in the early morning;  
the community's waiting for me.  
With a spring in my step I'm walking  
with my friends and my family. **R**

2 God invites all the poor and hungry  
to the banquet of justice and good  
where the harvest will not be hoarded  
so that no one will lack for food. **R**

3 May we build such a place among us  
where all people are equal in love.  
God has called us to work together  
and to share ev'rything we have. **R**

## Apostle's Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.**

## **Prayers of Intercession:**

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## **Offering Collection**

### **Offertory Hymn# 182 “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful”**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## **Words of Institution**

### **The 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

**Invitation to Communion** *Congregation Response: All are welcome.*

**The Distribution** *(Please sign the pew pad.)*

**Communion Hymns:** 619(vs. 1-3),364,367,373(vs.1-3),376,377

## **Sending Song: ELW #365 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” with Brass**

1 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!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing,  
Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave,  
Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3 But the pains which he endured,  
Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

4 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!

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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**Thank You for helping with the service today:**

**7:00**

Organist: Shelley Jerviss

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Jason Ulmen, Mason Krings

Reader: Krin Abraham

Communion: Kathy Olson, Lynn Meyer, Krin Abraham

Usher: Caidence Frauenkron, Claire Frauenkron, Duane Hegland

Brass Musicians: Dan Kildahl, Chris Kildahl, Jake Olson, Shelley Jerviss and the Choir.

**9:30**

Organist: Shelley Jerviss

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Atreyu Florin, Aaren Kulas

Reader: Larry Jerviss

Communion: Larry Jerviss, Lisa Skifton, Jessica Brand

Usher: Natalie Skifton, Keirah Stuttgen

Brass Musicians: Dan Kildahl, Chris Kildahl, Jake Olson, Shelley Jerviss and the Choir.

