

# EASTER 2

April 11, 2021



**Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**66325 M 152, Dowagiac (Sister Lakes), MI 49047**

David Schaller, pastor 269-424-3035

Sunday Worship, 9:00 am - Bible Class and Sunday School, 10:15 am

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A Member Congregation in the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

# ORDER OF SERVICE FOR EASTER 2

## OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 193 (TLH)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

### THE INVOCATION

(We declare that the triune God is the God we worship.)

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

(God cares for our spiritual needs.)

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**PC 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.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the humble life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

### KYRIE ELEISON

(Latin for "Lord, have mercy." We ask God to care for our earthly needs.)



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(We sing a hymn of glory to God.)



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,  
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,  
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.  
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.  
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

(A prayer that collects and reflects the themes of the day.)

## THE LESSONS

(We hear Bible readings that support the thoughts of the season.)

**1 John 5:1-6**<sup>NIV84</sup> *The resurrection of Christ proved that He was the Son of God. We live a "new life" of love toward one another too. |* Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. <sup>2</sup>This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. <sup>3</sup>This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. <sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood-- Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

**John 20:19-31**<sup>NIV84</sup> *After His resurrection, Jesus gave His disciples the authority to carry on His ministry.* | On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."<sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.<sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."<sup>30</sup> Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## PSALM FOR THE SEASON

(see insert)

Psalm 118

I Will Praise You

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

(We respond to the lessons by confessing what we believe.)

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**THE SERMON**

(We learn from God's word.)

**I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES**  
**"He Lives Triumphant From the Grave"**

1. Triumphant over all the evil that was planned for Him.
2. Triumphant over all *your* evil

**Acts 3:13-15**<sup>NIV84</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup> You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

**PRAYER**

(We respond to the sermon in prayer to God.)

P And the peace of God which is a greater peace than any our own minds can give to us shall guard your hearts in Christ Jesus unto life everlasting. Amen.

**THE OFFERTORY**

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me  
 not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly  
 Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
 Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

**OFFERING**

(You may put your offering in the collection plate located on the table in the entryway.)

## PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 307 (TLH)

Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

(We receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.)

P Dear friends in Christ: Since you desire to receive Holy Communion to comfort and relieve your conscience and to strengthen your faith it is proper that you consider what the Word of God teaches about this Holy Sacrament, that you should confess your sins, and that you should receive the assurance of forgiveness. The Apostle Paul reminds us: "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup" (1 Cor 11:28). When we examine ourselves, we find sinfulness in our very nature and also that we have offended God and others through wrong thoughts, words, and actions. From the guilt and consequences of this our sin we cannot in any way set ourselves free. For this reason our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us and has taken on a human nature like ours. In this humanity He not only fulfilled all of God's law for us, but He also suffered the punishment and death we deserve for our sin, as the Scriptures declare: "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Cor 5:21).

In this Holy Sacrament our Lord Jesus gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink, so that our faith will be strengthened and so that we can cheerfully carry out what He wants. Therefore we come to our Savior's Supper with a true sense of our unworthiness and guilt but also with a firm trust in His words: "This is my body given for you. This is My blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." In true contrition and faith, then, we are prepared to receive this Sacrament in a worthy manner for our soul's health.

### Words of Institution

### The Distribution

† **To any visitors seeking communion:** Since the Lord's Supper is a public expression of agreement in beliefs, we ask that only those who are members of congregations in the Church of the Lutheran Confession come forward to receive the sacrament. We observe this practice in loving obedience to the Scriptures, and not as a judgment against anyone's personal faith, sincerity, or standing before God. For more information, see the pamphlet in the entryway entitled *Why Close Communion?* †

### The Thanksgiving

**Hymn 207:5-6**  
Grant Me Grace, O Blessed Savior

## CLOSING PRAYER

The Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪ C **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

(The Lord sends us home with His blessing.)

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

♪ C **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**HYMN 208:8-10** (TLH)

Blessèd Are They That Have Not Seen







**Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions, April 12-17, 2021**  
by Prof. Paul Koch (retired)

**Mon Acts 3:11-20** Predictably, Easter opened the floodgates, and the waters of salvation poured out. Repentant Peter clarified that Jesus was God's Choice (though rejected by His countrymen) and had opened the heart of the derelict to receive healing (13-16). "*As for you, repent of your sins against Jesus and receive God's forgiveness as your first step into new life*" (17-20).

**Tues John 20:19-31** Peter knew what he was talking about, for Jesus had rescued him and equipped him for service (19-23). Thomas, however, held out until Jesus removed his doubt (24-29). Indeed, Jesus had performed enough miracles, and John has put enough evidence into the written record to substantiate Jesus as our Savior, deserving our trust forever (30-31).

**Wed 1 John 5:1-6** Since we are convinced that Jesus is God's Chosen One, we love our brothers/sisters (1) and are happy to follow our Father's house rules (2-3). Being God's dear children, He has brought us into the winners' circle – and living as God's children inoculates us against the sin-pandemic that has brought our world to its knees. Lord, have mercy on us!

**Thurs Psalm 16** This is my story; this is my song (1): I claim no credit for being a member of God's family (2-3), for turning my back on ungodliness (4) and for laying claim to God's goodness (5-6). I simply relax in the LORD (7-8), happy that Jesus came through His ordeal and left the cemetery behind (9-10). I am relying on Jesus to *show me the path of life* as I live in His *presence*, and to hold me close (11). This is my story; this is my song!

**Fri Mark 16:12-14** Jesus tilled stony ground in the hearts and lives of His disciples, walking with two of them and taking time to explain Scripture prophecy. These two grasped it (12); Hallelujah! But there was more hard-packed ground to cover (13), so He rolled up His sleeves and used as much muscle as the situation required. (Jesus knew how to do it.)

**Sat Acts 22:30-23:10** Jesus supported Paul all the way, so when the centurion made arrangements for a Jewish (not a civil) court trial (30), Paul appeared before his accusers but declined to be intimidated (1-5). When Paul put the Resurrection of Jesus on the table (6), that sabotaged the prosecution, for the modernist Sadducees did not agree with the Scripture or with the Pharisee's traditionalist stance on that crucial theological issue (7-9). Jesus had better plans for Paul than his being mauled or killed, so He orchestrated Paul's rescue via the Roman officer with his troopers (10). God's good reason for placing secular authority over a country's citizens is to protect law-abiders—and punish law-breakers. So far, so good. Stay tuned for further developments.

