Grace to you and peac Grace to yo and peac Grace to you and peace Grace to yo and peac Grace to yo and peace Grace to yo and peac Grace to you and peace Grace to yo and peac Grace to yo and peac

from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

REVELATION 1:5, NRSV

The Order of Worship

(We will follow the Common Service which is also printed on page 15 in the front section of the Hymnal)

Pre-Service Music

Opening Hymn: "Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs" *Christian Worship 227*

The Invocation

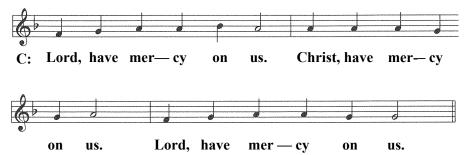
P: In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.



The Confession of Sins

P: Dearly loved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



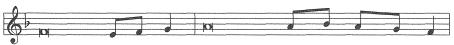
Absolution

God's Forgiveness Proclaimed

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor- ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King,



God the Fa- ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al—so with you.

P: O gracious Lord and victorious Savior, you have removed the sting of death and fear of the grave. Remind us daily of your resurrection and what it means to us. You rule over all things from your throne in heaven. You use your unsurpassed power to work all things for our blessing. You strengthen us with the reassurance you are our faithful God and Lord, and will bring us safely to life in heaven. For these blessings accept our thanks and praise together with your Father and the Spirit—with whom you live and rule throughout endless ages.



The Lessons from God's Word "Stop Giving into Fear, Jesus Lives!"

Resurrection Joy

Acts 5:12. 17-32

¹²Many signs and wonders were done among the people through the hands of the apostles. With one mind, they all continued meeting in Solomon's Colonnade.

¹⁷The high priest rose up, along with his associates (that is, the party of the Sadducees), because they were filled with envy. ¹⁸They arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go, stand in the temple and keep on telling the people the whole message about this life." ²¹After they heard this, they entered the temple courts at daybreak and began to teach.

When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin (that is, the whole council of elders of the people of Israel). Then they sent orders to the jail to have the apostles brought in. ²²But when the officers arrived, they did not find them in the prison. They returned and reported, ²³"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside!" ²⁴When the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they were puzzled about them, wondering what could have happened.

²⁵Then someone came and reported to them, "Look! The men you put in prison are standing in the temple courts and teaching the people."

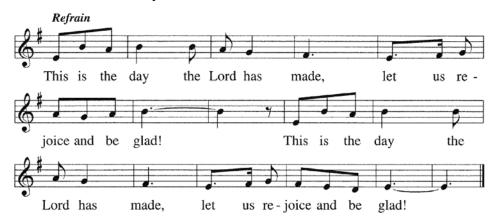
²⁶Then the captain went with the officers and brought the apostles in without force, because they were afraid that the people might stone them. ²⁷After they brought them in, they had them stand before the Sanhedrin. The high priest asked them, ²⁸"Did we not give you strict orders not to teach in this name? Look, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood down on us!"

²⁹But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God ra-

ther than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you arrested and killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹God exalted him to his right hand as Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and the forgiveness of sins. ³²We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

Psalm for the Day

Psalm 118





The LORD is my strength | and my song; * he has become my sal- | vation.

The LORD'S right hand is | lifted high; * the LORD'S right hand has done | mighty things!

I will not | die but live, * and will proclaim what the | LORD has done.

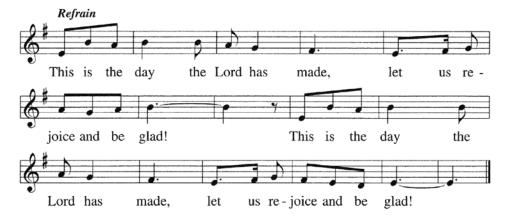
Refraim

I will give you thanks, for you an- | swered me: * you have become my sal- | vation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the | capstone; * the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous | in our eyes.

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

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son, * and to the Holy | Spirit, as it was in the be- | ginning, * is now and will be forever. | Amen.



Epistle Revelation 1:4-18

⁴John, to the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is, who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his own blood ⁶and made us a kingdom and priests to God his Father—to him be the glory and the power forever. Amen.

⁷Look, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, including those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the earth will mourn because of him.

Yes. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, the Almighty.

⁹I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingship and patient endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.

¹⁰I was in spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard a loud voice behind me, like a trumpet, ¹¹saying, "Write what you see on a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

¹²I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me. When I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was one like a son of man. He was clothed with a robe that reached to his feet, and around his chest he wore a gold sash. ¹⁴His head and his hair were white, like white wool or like snow. His eyes were like blazing flames. ¹⁵His feet were like polished bronze being refined in a furnace. His voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶He held seven stars in his right hand. A sharp two-edged sword was coming out of his mouth. His face was shining as the sun shines in all its brightness.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He placed his right hand on me and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last— ¹⁸the Living One. I was dead and, see, I am alive forever and ever! I also hold the keys of death and hell."

Verse of the Day

P: Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever! I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my hearts yearns within me!



The Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel is recorded in the twentieth chapter of John, reading from the nineteenth verse.



C: Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

P: This is the Word of our God—our promise of life now, and our certainty of life in heaven.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

The Confession of Faith

(we will unite in the words of the Apostles Creed)

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

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, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

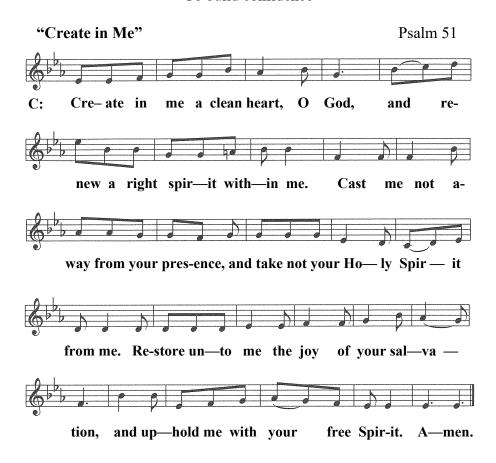
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church—the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" *Christian Worship 141*

Sermon Revelation 1:4-18

"A Picture Worth a Thousand Words!"

To invite praise To offer hope To build confidence



Thanksgiving and Prayer

Prayer for the Day

Special Requests and Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

(spoken by the congregation and pastor)

C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power and the glory
 are yours now and forever. Amen!

Hymn

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" Christian Worship 370

Closing Prayer

(read responsively)

P: ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵ Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time. (1 Peter 1:3-5)

C: Alleluia! Christ the Lord is risen!

P: ⁶ Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷ so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. (1Peter 1:6-7)

C: Alleluia! Christ the Lord is risen indeed!

P: ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

(1 Peter 1:8-9)

C: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, aim for perfection, listen to God's Word, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and compassion will be with you.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The Lord look on you with favor, and give you peace.



C: A—men. A—men. A — men.

Closing Hymn

"The Day of Resurrection" Christian Worship 166

Silent Prayer Announcements

Today—Welcome in name of loving and faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. It is because of his great work that we can anticipate the joy and blessing of heaven. It is also because of his work that we can live with the assurance of his blessing now. If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book, and visit us again—soon!

- Everyone is invited to stay after the service to enjoy a cup of coffee, some snacks, and the gift of friendship in the Lord.
- The Quarterly Congregational meeting will start at 11:00

am. Please return to the sanctuary after you had something to eat.

 Pastor and his family will be traveling to Arizona this afternoon. They will return on Thursday evening. If there is an emergency, please contact Greg Grunewald, or Pastor via his cell phone.

Friday—Office Hours from 10:30 am—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Church Cleaning—Hanna

• Mowing beginning May 1st—C. Schueler

Sunday, May 1st—Worship and Live Streaming at 9:30 am. When we consider the picture of our Savior in heaven and what it means to us, there is only one thing which can say, "Amen!" This means, "Yes, so shall it be!" Because Jesus lives triumphant from the grave, we know exactly what is prepared for us.

• During this service we will have the opportunity to receive the Lord's Supper. Please register to receive the Sacrament today, or contact Pastor if you would like to receive it privately.

Thank You

To Al Todd, our Hymnsoft operator; to Josh Schueler and Jim Everson for controlling the audio and video portions of the streaming; to those who brought Easter lilies for our celebration of the resurrection; and to the Linda Williams and Karolyn Hanna who served snacks after the worship service.

Acknowledgements ——

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