

Easter Son Rise Worship

Union Church

March 31, 2024 A.D.

7:30 A.M.



GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

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Easter Son Rise

A BLESSED EASTER AND WARM WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP at Grace/ Union Church this morning and affirm to worship the Father, Son+ and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered worship today, you received this bulletin containing the worship and announcements. We also want you to notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. We invite you to use this as a guide for your personal prayers during worship today and throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like us to update your information, make sure to fill out the white Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate as you leave which is located on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary. If you have a prayer concern or a prayer of thanksgiving, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact the Church Office.



Opening Liturgy Begins in the Memorial Garden

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

ALL: He was with God in the beginning.

Pastor: Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.

ALL: In Him was life, and that life was the light of all people.

Pastor: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness cannot overcome it.

ALL: The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

Pastor: He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him.

ALL: He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him.

Pastor: The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us.

ALL: We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

* **PRAYER**

(When all have arrived in the Sanctuary, we will sing the Opening Hymn)

Opening Hymn.....Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!.....LBW 128

* **THE SERVICE OF LIGHT**

The Pastor processes the Candle to the Altar in Union Church. The Candle symbolizes the resurrection of Christ, God's light in the darkness.

* Pastor: This is the light of Christ! (spoken 3 times)

* **ALL: Thanks be to God!**

* **PRAYER**

* **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

One of the traditions at Easter Sunrise is to affirm our baptism. We invite all to affirm their baptism as we celebrate Christ's resurrection.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, in Baptism, God called us, claimed us, named us, delivered us, saved us, and joined us to the whole body of Christ. On this Easter morning, let us renew our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Do you renounce the devil, and all his works, and all his evil ways?

All: I do.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

All: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

All: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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

Pastor: Let us pray for all the baptized everywhere.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit, you have given us new life and claimed us as Your own. You forgive our sin and bring us to life beyond death. By the power of the Holy Spirit give us strength and wisdom to live as Your passionate followers through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

All: Amen!

(Congregation may be seated.)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Exodus 15:1-11

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. ²The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. ³The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name. ⁴"Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. ⁵The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. ⁶Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy. ⁷In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. ⁸At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. ⁹The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.' ¹⁰You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters. ¹¹"Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?"

PSALM 118:15-29

¹⁵There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:

¹⁶"**The right hand of the LORD has triumphed!**

**The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD
has triumphed!"**

¹⁷I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁸**The LORD has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death.**

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.

²⁰**"This is the gate of the LORD;
he who is righteous may enter."**

²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.

**²²The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

²³This is the LORD'S doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

**²⁴On this day the LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵Hosannah, LORD, hosannah!
LORD, send us now success.

**²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.**

²⁷God is the LORD; he has shined upon us;*
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

**²⁸"You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you."**

²⁹Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

I Corinthians 5:6b-8

^{6b}Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

*** GOSPEL PROCLAMATION (stand)**

John 20:1-18

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their

homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

WE NEED OUR STONE ROLLED AWAY

Pastor: God of life,

All: We confess the despair of our own Good Fridays and pray that You will roll our stone away. On this Easter, break through the barriers of our sin and shame and bring Your resurrection presence to our troubled hearts. We need Your promise of new life and the hope of conquered death. Help us to see the open doorway to the good news of our own resurrection.

Pastor: Easter brings the best news of all...Jesus is risen from the dead! Jesus is alive! Jesus died a cruel death on the cross. His body was placed in a borrowed tomb, and after three days the stone was rolled away!

All: The tomb is empty! Death is defeated! Jesus is alive! Praise God for the good news of Easter!

THE SON RISE PROCLAMATION.....”The Fire Bomb”Pastor Coble

EASTER HYMN.....Love Divine, All Loves ExcellingLBW 315

* **THE RESPONSE TO THE RESURRECTION** (stand)

Pastor: God declares that we are Easter people!

ALL: We are here because Jesus is the good news for all people.

Pastor: Jesus Christ took the bad news of our sin and changed everything by dying and rising for us.

ALL: Now we are a part of that new people in Christ and come here to celebrate His Resurrection presence among us.

Pastor: God of life, we thank you for your perfect plan to save all humankind from death. We praise you for the saving action of Jesus Christ and his gift of forgiveness. Now let us draw near with true hearts and offer our prayers and petitions unto God our Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught his disciples to pray saying....

* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Go and tell others the Good News of the One who is risen from the dead. Go and serve in the name of the One who gives us resurrection life. Go and serve in the name of the Father, Son+, and Holy Spirit. Go in peace and be the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

(There is no Benediction since this Vigil is only the beginning worship of Resurrection Day. The worship will continue with the Easter Proclamation at 10:30 in the main sanctuary.)

* = Stand

WE WELCOME YOU to this Son Rise Worship on this early morning. If you are new to Grace Church, please know that you are invited and welcome to worship here again. If you are seeking a church home, please consider Grace Church as your church home. You are also invited to join the Easter Son Rise Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall following this Son Rise Worship. You are invited and welcome to attend Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 am. The worship continues with the Celebration of the Resurrection at 10:30 am in the Grace Sanctuary.

GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Gary Leatherman, Phil Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Richard & Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Carolyn & Scott Whisnant.

Nursing Home: Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village),

Friends and Relatives in our Prayers: Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Dennis D'Alessino, Wayne and Joyce Eckard, Julie Foster, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, J.C., Michelle Kirkland, Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Katie Patton, Angela Sanford, Melinda Smith, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Monica Thomas, United States of America; Faye White, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces.

(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)



The Ministers.....	The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor
Organist.....	Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant	Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President	Tim Eckard
Youth Leader	Stormy Shull
Lector	Todd Childers
Communion Assistants.....	Rick and Cindy Bivens
Ushers	Jack Wilfong and James Hall
Altar Preparation.....	Herb and Libby Travis
Offering Tabulators	Todd Childers, Sheila Drum
Custodian	Chris Abernethy