

The Resurrection of Our Lord

March 31, 2024 A.D.

10:30 A.M.



GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

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The Resurrection of Our Lord



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude.....Please Observe Silence For Meditation

PRAISE

- * Opening Hymn **Christ is Risen! Alleluia!** **LBW 131**
- * The Kyrie page 57
- * The Hymn of Praise.....*This is the Feast*..... Page 60
- * The Salutation and Prayer of the Day.....page 62

EQUIP

- The First Lesson..... Isaiah 25:6-9
L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**
- The Psalm 16 Bulletin pg. 4
- The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**
- * The Gospel Procession (Congregation sings the following hymn)
- * Hymn.....**Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds** **LBW 143 vss.1-2**
- * The Easter Proclamation.....Mark 16:1-8
- * Hymn.....**Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds** **LBW 143 vss. 3-4**
- Children's SermonPastor Coble
- The Easter Message....."No Lamb Needed"Pastor Coble
- Hymn of the Day.....**The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done** **LBW 135**
- * The Nicene Creed.....page 64
- * The Prayers and the Peace page 65

GIVE

- The Offering The People of God
- * The Offertory and Prayerpages 66, 67

RECEIVE

- * The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
- * The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayerpages 69, 71
- * **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- * Post-Communion Canticle.....*Thank the Lord*..... page 72
- * Post-Communion Prayer
- * The Benediction

SEND

- * The Sending Hymn**Thine Is the Glory** **LBW 145**
- * The Dismissal: P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **All: He is risen indeed!**

Postlude * = Stand Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy

HAPPY EASTER AND WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, 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 this week.

THE EASTER MORNING THEME: In Old Testament times it was very simple. You sinned and you paid God the price, a sacrifice. You brought a lamb or calf to the temple and it was sacrificed for your sins. Today we celebrate that God has made the sacrifice for our sins by sending us the Lamb of God, His Son and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Him the sacrifice has been made. Through Jesus' glorious resurrection, we have eternal life.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

PSALM 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

²**All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me, night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
for evermore.

SECOND LESSON: I Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 148; 1 John 1:1 - 2:2; John 20:19-31. Readings are based on the recommended use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the North American Lutheran Church and Lectionary of Sola Publishing. Used by Permission.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God,
in celebration of the Resurrection.

GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Kevin & Christy Adams, Jeffrey 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, John & Terry Barnett, 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, Kathy Rihani, Angela Sanford, Melinda Smith, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Cassie Taylor, 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.

PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR GARY COBLE who is leading worship this morning.

LILIES MAY BE TAKEN after the Easter Celebration today.

THE RITE OF COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS will be held at the worship service **next Sunday, April 7th**. Lynette Momier and Sandi Tallant have completed Stephen Ministry Training. After worship, we will have a **covered dish reception** in the Fellowship Hall for our new Stephen Ministers. Please bring a dish to share. We pray God's blessing on them as they minister to those in need.

40 DAYS OF PRAYERS – The Congregation is being asked by the Call Committee for 40 days of prayers beginning on Easter Sunday in our search for a new pastor. The prayers need to be from the heart, but if you are struggling, prayers are in the hymnals. This is part of the Call Process. Please watch the bulletin for an announcement of a Congregational Workshop on a Saturday from 8:30 am – 2:00 pm. This workshop will be led by a member of the NALC Call Pastors, and is to involve all members of Grace to the task of finding a pastor. The Call Committee is excited to announce that one more step in the process has begun. The profile of Grace has been started (“A Want Ad”). The input from the Congregation thus far has been instrumental.
May God Bless You...Your Grace Call Committee

ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM) food ask for the month of April is **canned and dried beans**. Since ECCCM expanded its service area to include all of Catawba County, now, more than ever, there is a great need for food donations and volunteers. Another way to help is to donate unwanted items in good condition to the Thrifty Threads & Treasures Store, which is currently holding its Spring-Cleaning Drive! It isn't just about tidying up – it's a heartfelt effort to extend support to those in our community who are facing a crisis. You can drop off donations Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:30 pm at 245 East N Street in Newton. It's a real way to make a difference right here in Catawba County!

APPLICATIONS FOR PART-TIME SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION are now being accepted by Grace. For details, see a Board Member.

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is posted in the Narthex. If you wish to give the flowers for a given Sunday, please list your name on the chart and contact the church office on the Tuesday prior to your selected Sunday so that the correct information is placed in the bulletin.

APRIL NEWSLETTERS are available today. You can help distribute them by taking one to a friend or a relative. Those not picked up will be mailed next week.

*“You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.”*

Psalm 16:11

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today:

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

7:30A – Easter Son Rise Worship (UC)

8:30A – Easter Breakfast (FH)

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A - Worship Celebration

Next Sunday:

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A – Worship Celebration

Commission of Stephen Ministers

**(Covered Dish Reception immediately following
Worship – Fellowship Hall)**

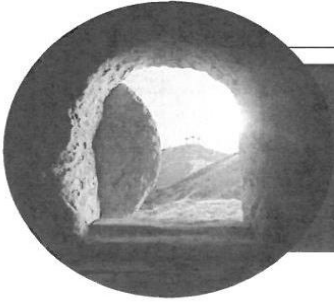
The Ministers.....The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor
Organist..... Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President Tim Eckard
Youth LeaderStormy Shull
LectorTodd Childers
Communion Assistants..... Rick and Cindy Bivens
Ushers Jack Wilfong and James Hall
Altar Preparation.....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



Table Talk II

By Rev. Timothy J. Swenson • ILT Dean of Chapel

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MARK 16:1-8

“Then they went out and ran from the tomb, for terror and bewilderment had seized them.” Vs. 8

Mary, Mary, and Salome, the first of those commissioned as apostles, sent out to bear news of the resurrection. Mary, Mary, and Salome, three women who had come to the tomb intending to fulfill their duty and honor the dead by anointing their crucified teacher. Their duty and honor would go unfulfilled. The events started piling up: the stone protecting the tomb had been rolled back (vs. 4). The tomb had an invader—that is, a young man dressed in a white robe (vs. 5). The young man had distressing news—Jesus was not present, even as a corpse (vs. 6). And then, they were told, “Go! Tell!” (vs. 7). These events piling up on one another drove them out of the tomb in haste, in fear, and in befuddlement.

While we, from this side of a two-thousand-year history with the resurrection, might be tempted to attribute their fear and befuddlement to the piling on of seemingly supernatural events, that attribution would be mistaken. There is an entirely non-supernatural explanation for their fear and confusion: They could easily be accused of a capital crime. Caesar, it appears, had issued a decree regarding the sanctity of graves and tombs. Out of respect for the dead and those who grieved them, the Roman

emperor had ordered all graves and tombs along with their contents to be honored. Interference with, or theft of, a tomb's contents—especially the body—was to receive the death penalty. In the absence of Jesus' body, Mary, Mary, and Salome stood under the threat of death. To announce the empty tomb would be to implicate themselves in grave robbing. Likewise, when the chief priests and elders paid the guards at the tomb to spread the lie that his disciples had stolen the body (Mt. 28:13), that accusation of grave robbing and its consequences implicated the disciples in a capital crime.

Thanks be to God that we no longer live under the threat of such crime but can declare the risen Lord with faith and confidence and have no fear.

Table Talk: Discuss the implications the death sentence accusation has upon the reading of the book of Acts.

Pray: Heavenly Father, grant me to say, “He is risen!” in confidence and faith. Amen



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