

Easter Festival Service

Sunday, April 12, 2020

Order of Worship: The Office of Matins

*(pp. 109-119 in the hymnal—
the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary (ELH))*

(Today we follow the order of worship known as “Matins.” “Matins”—from the Latin word for “morning”—is one of the main services the monks would sing together each day during the middle ages. The Lutheran church kept the Matins liturgy because its focus is on the reading and hearing of God’s Word.)

~Prelude — Instrumental Duet “*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*”

~Hymn 352 *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

*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!*

*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!*

*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!*

*4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

~Versicles — *Opening Sentences*

(ELH p. 109ff; Ps 51:15, Ps 70:1)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; forevermore. Amen.

~Psalmody: Psalm 118

(Read Responsively)

P: The LORD is my strength and song,

C: And He has become my salvation.

P: The voice of rejoicing and salvation Is in the tents of the righteous;

C: The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

P: The right hand of the LORD is exalted;

C: The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

P: I shall not die, but live,

C: And declare the works of the LORD.

P: The LORD has chastened me severely,

C: But He has not given me over to death.

P: Open to me the gates of righteousness;

C: I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD.

P: This is the gate of the LORD,
C: Through which the righteous shall enter.

P: I will praise You, For You have answered me,
C: And have become my salvation.

P: The stone which the builders rejected
C: Has become the chief cornerstone.

P: This was the LORD's doing;
C: It is marvelous in our eyes.

P: This is the day the LORD has made;
C: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

ALL: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever more. Amen.

~Hymn 351, vv. 1, 2, 7, 8 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

*1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.*

*2. He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.*

*7. He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.*

*8. He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"*

~Old Testament Lesson

Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave! I will redeem them from death! Death, where are your plagues? Grave, where is your destruction? Compassion will be hidden from my eyes.

~Small Festival Choir — "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" (ELH 341 vv 1,-3,6; Bloedel Family)

*Awake, my heart, with gladness,
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious Sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.*

*The foe in triumph shouted
When Christ lay in the tomb;
But, lo, he now is routed,
His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
In glorious victory
He who is strong to save
Has triumphed o'er the grave.*

*This is a sight that gladdens—
What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son
In love for me hath won.*

*Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never,
Whate'er He passeth through.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's dark thrall;
I follow Him through all.*

~Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-8 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' See, I have told you!" They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

~Apostles' Creed — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 46)

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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

And 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 shall 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 343, vv. 1-5 *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*

1. *Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands,
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand He stands
And brings us life from heaven;
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of alleluia! Alleluia!*

2. *No son of man could conquer death,
Such mischief sin had wrought us,
For innocence dwelt not on earth,
And therefore death had brought us
Into thralldom from of old
And ever grew more strong and bold
And kept us in its bondage. Alleluia!*

3. *But Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
To our low state descended,
The cause of death He has undone,
Its pow'r forever ended,
Ruined all its right and claim
And left it nothing but the name,
Its sting is lost forever. Alleluia!*

4. *It was a strange and dreadful strife
When life and death contended.
The victory remained with life,
The reign of death was ended;
Holy Scripture plainly saith
That death is swallowed up by death,
In vain it rages o'er us. Alleluia!*

5. *Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree—
So strong His love—to save us.
See, His blood doth mark our door;
Faith points to it, death passes o'er,
And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia!*

~Easter Exordium—Festival Address

~Exordium Hymn 348 *He Is Arisen! Glorious Word!*

*He is arisen! Glorious Word!
Now reconciled is God, my Lord;
The gates of heav'n are open,
My Jesus died triumphantly,
And Satan's arrows broken lie,
Destroyed hell's direst weapon.
O hear
What cheer!
Christ victorious
Riseth glorious,
Life He giveth—
He was dead, but see, He liveth!*

~Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text

1 Peter 1:3-12 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, into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

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 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.

Though 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, because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The prophets, who prophesied about the grace that has come to you, searched and studied carefully concerning this salvation, trying to find out what person and what time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, when they wrote about these things. These are the things that have now been announced to you by those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even the angels long to look carefully into these things.

~Sermon Message

"Our Living Hope in Christ's Empty Tomb"

- 1. This living hope will experience various trials.*
- 2. But Christ's empty tomb protects us for eternal salvation.*

~Canticle Hymn 359 *This is the Feast*

Refrain:

*This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

1. *Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
(Refrain)*

2. *Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are His.
(Refrain)*

3. *Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation.
(Refrain)*

4. *Blessing, honor, glory, and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
(Refrain)*

5. *For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun His reign. Alleluia!
(Refrain)*

~Easter Prayer

~Kyrie — *“Lord, Have Mercy”*

(ELH p. 116)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~The Lord’s Prayer

(ELH p. 117; Mt 6:9-13)

C: ♪ 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 forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect — *The congregation’s prayer of the day*

(ELH p. 66; p. 155 #63)

P: Let us pray: Grant, we beseech You, almighty God, that we who celebrate the solemnities of the Lord’s resurrection may by renewal of Your Holy Spirit rise again from the death of the soul and walk in newness of life; through the same, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

~Benedicamus — *Call for blessing*

(ELH p. 119; 2 Cor. 13:14)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

~Benediction — *Final blessing for God’s people*

(ELH p. 119; Num. 6:24-26)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Hymn 354, vv. 1, 2, 6 Like the Golden Sun Ascending

1. Like the golden sun ascending,
Breaking through the gloom of night,
On the earth his glory spending
So that darkness takes to flight,
Thus my Jesus from the grave
And death's dismal, dreadful cave
Rose triumphant Easter morning
At the early purple dawning.

2. Thanks to Thee, O Christ victorious!
Thanks to Thee, O Lord of life!
Death hath now no power o'er us,
Thou hast conquered in the strife.
Thanks because Thou didst arise
And hast opened Paradise!
None can fully sing the glory
Of the resurrection story.

6. Satan's arrows all lie broken,
Death and hell have met their doom;
Christ, Thy rising is the token:
Thou hast triumphed o'er the tomb.
Thou hast buried all my woe,
And my cup doth overflow;
By Thy resurrection glorious
I shall wave my palms victorious.

Preacher: Vicar Jacob Kempfert / Liturgist: Pastor Luke Ulrich / Organist: Mark DeGarmeaux
Small Choir: Bloedel Family / Trumpet: Daniel Neubauer
Instrumental Duet: Cassie Johnson & Kristin Matzke



Flowers adorning our sanctuary today are given in celebration of the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Seth & Bethany Ferkenstad in honor of our grandparents
Janet & Greg Costello in honor of loved ones
Duane & Brenda Garbers in honor of our parents
Art & Terri Westphal in honor of loved ones
Elli and Joe Fisher in honor of loved ones
Hal & Marsha Natvig in honor of loved ones



Weekly Financial Update:
Given Last Week: \$18,497.68 (includes on-line giving)
Fiscal Year To Date Deficit (as of 2/29/20): \$68,787.

Romans 12: 1 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship.

Dear Mt. Olive Family & Friends: Due to the concerns for public health during this COVID-19 pandemic, and respecting the advisement of our governmental agencies, we have moved to providing DIGITAL WORSHIP SERVICES. You can find these on our website and on our local TV station, KTV.

Please know that our church leadership is continuing to look for the best possible ways to serve you with Word and Sacrament. Please bear with us in this process. If you are in need of Pastoral Care or would like to receive the Lord's Supper we are here to minister to you and desire to do so.

You may contact our office at (507) 345-4966.

Catch Mt. Olive Worship Services Online at www.mtolivelutheran.org

OR

TV on local cable channels 181 (Spectrum) and 7 & 507 (Consolidated Communications) on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and Thursdays at 11:30 AM.

*To give your offering online, go to www.mtolivelutheran.org and click on the link "DONATE ONLINE". Or **TEXT 833-726-3742 along with the amount you wish to donate.** Or **Mail** your offering to the church office.*

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
