

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Torrington, Connecticut



Easter Sunrise 2021
The Resurrection of our Lord
6:15 am

Easter Proclamation

On this day we overflow with thanks and praise, O God, for this is the day you have made, the day that fills us with both fear and great joy. On this day you sent your angels to roll back the stone and you raised Jesus, who had been crucified, from the dead. Never again need we search for Jesus in the places of dead memories and buried dreams, for now he has been raised and goes forever ahead of us to open the gates of death to new life and hope. He has triumphed over sin and death. Indeed though he was the stone rejected by the builders, you have made him the cornerstone, the rock on which is founded everlasting life, the life that burst forth from the tomb on this glorious day of resurrection! We thank you and we praise you O God, both now, and through our risen Savior, eternally.

People: Amen.

Entrance Hymn

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

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!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!



Apostolic Greeting

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

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to the Gentiles just as it had to Jews.

34Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lay Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God!



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the risen Lord in the preaching of this faith.

1Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

3For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, 4and that he was buried, and 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 and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 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, unfit 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 has not been 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 proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Lay Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word

People: Thanks be to God!

Lay Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 16th chapter.

People: Glory to you O Lord.

The Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and 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. 3They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" 4When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. 6But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." 8So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Lay Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you O Christ.

Meditation

“He is risen indeed, Alleluia”

The Prayers

L Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Lay Leader: Holy God, you raise up leaders in your church who preach salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ. Help us to overcome intimidation and fear and inspire us to go and tell this good news throughout the world. Alleluia!

People: Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, you make yourself known in your creation: in mountains and valleys, in plants and animals, and in those who care for what you have made. Lead us and all your creatures to proclaim that this is the day that the Lord has made. Alleluia!

People: Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, you desire that all people live in peace. Guide all in authority at the local, state, national, and international levels, that they show no partiality in their care and concern. Alleluia!

People Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, you wipe away the tears of all who cry to you in distress. Console those who are afraid, protect those who are persecuted, bring healing to all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and comfort those who mourn especially... Alleluia!

People: Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, you choose us to be witnesses to your love. Bless visitors among us today, those celebrating Easter with family and friends, and those who travel during this holiday time. Alleluia!

People: Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, you have swallowed up death forever through the resurrection of your Son. Make us confident that we will feast at your heavenly banquet with those who have died and are now at rest. Alleluia!

People: Christ risen!

Lay Leader: Holy God, by the death and resurrection of your Son, you have granted new life, abundant renewal, and salvation. Hear our prayers for the sake of the one who has set us free, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Peace

Lay Leader: Please turn towards others and offer them some sign of Peace.



Thanksgiving for the Word

Lay Leader: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Lay Leader: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Lay Leader: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Lay Leader: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory forever.

People: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

People: 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.

Blessing

Lay Leader: Go out now as God's chosen witnesses to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him. Set your minds on the things of God and do not be afraid for your life is safe with Christ in God. And may God raise you from all that would entomb you. May Christ Jesus be your life. And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good.

People: Amen

Dismissal

Lay Leader: You seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here. He has gone on before you into the Galilee of your daily lives. Go! Tell the good news of Easter. Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!