

**BLESSED ARE THOSE  
WHO HAVE NOT SEEN  
AND YET HAVE  
BELIEVED.  
JOHN 20:29**

resurrección  
**REALity**

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Easter 2 - April 7, 2024



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ***Resurrection Reality***

In most world religions, the alleged foundational event was experienced by only one person. A self-proclaimed prophet would allege he alone had some special encounter with God. *“No really! Just trust me. It really happened.”* The resurrection reality is so very different. In the Great Resurrection chapter (1 Corinthians 15), St. Paul writes an entire paragraph listing all the people to whom Jesus appeared after He rose, including a group of over five hundred at one time. The proof of Jesus’ resurrection brought peace and strength to those early believers. They knew there was more to their existence than just their time on earth. They knew the reality that eternal life was theirs, a gift from their living Lord. It gave them incredible joy and courage. May the resurrection reality give us the same.

## ***Before Worship***

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes.

## ***General Information***

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall.  
Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment  
and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall.

## ***Serving in Worship***

Music: Rachel Halldorson  
Ushers: Mike Jensen, Kurt Knurr  
Pastor: Wayne Halldorson  
Pastor’s Cell: 903-717-1922  
Pastor’s Email: [grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com)

## ***Church Information***

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Prayer Requests: [prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com](mailto:prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com) /  
text to 520-236-9673

### ***T-Loop Hearing Assistance***

*If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal earbuds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.*



# EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

## 449 This Joyful Eastertide

CW 449



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide a - way with sin and  
2 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the  
3 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill  
slum - ber till trump from east to west



has sprung to life this mor - row.  
my pass - ing soul de - liv - er.  
shall wake the dead in num - ber.

### *Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934  
Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

We continue to celebrate the greatest victory of all in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

***Easter Call to Worship / Confession & Absolution***

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Death has been swallowed up in victory!

**For Christ the Lord is Risen!**

He wipes away the tears from our faces.

**He removes the disgrace of his people.**

The season of Lent, and especially the sadness, betrayal, and horror of Good Friday remind us how costly our redemption is. He did what was needed right up to the perfect standards of God, and faced the torturous fate of hell that the sinner deserves.

**We confess, O Lord, that we are by nature sinful. We caused the hell You endured on Good Friday by the sins that we have committed. You paid the price in full. We are eternally grateful. We bring to You the sins and weaknesses that especially trouble us . . .**

Because of His victory over the grave, and by His authority given to us in the doctrine of the Keys, I proclaim the good news to you:

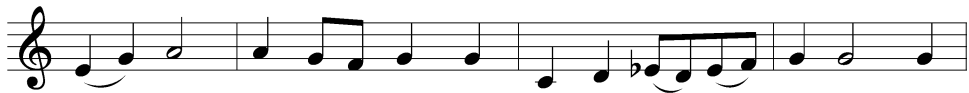
All your sins are indeed forgiven in the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. All praise and honor to our God for the marvelous plan of salvation. For carrying it out with perfection, and for making it ours by the gift of Faith.

We lift up our hearts with joy today and exclaim:  
**He is risen! Glory to God in the highest!**

***Glory to God in the Highest***



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.


Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on



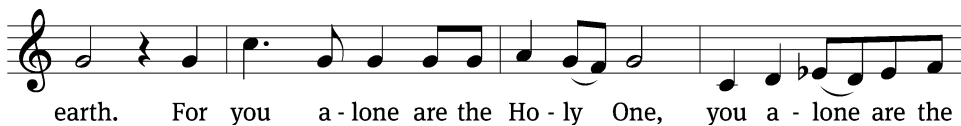
us; you are seated at the right hand of the



Fa-ther: receive our prayer, receive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to his peo-ple on



earth. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the



Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ,



with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11133502

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

## ***Prayer of the Day***

Let us pray:

O risen Lord, You came to Your disciples and took away their fears with Your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and Sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of Your abiding presence; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

# **THE WORD**

## ***First Reading***

Acts 18:1–11

<sup>1</sup>After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup>There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, <sup>3</sup>and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. <sup>4</sup>Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

<sup>5</sup>When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. <sup>6</sup>But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. <sup>8</sup>Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

<sup>9</sup>One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. <sup>10</sup>For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.” <sup>11</sup>So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

## ***Psalm 16***

read responsively

This is the day the LORD has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;  
**you make my lot secure.**

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
**surely I have a delightful inheritance.**

I keep my eyes always on the LORD.

**With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
**my body also will rest secure,**

because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
**nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

You make known to me the path of life;

**you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.**

## ***Second Reading***

1 John 1:1–4

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. <sup>2</sup>The life



appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup>We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We write this to make our joy complete.

### ***Easter Verse of the Day***

John 20:29

**Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.  
Alleluia.**



### ***Gospel Reading***

John 20:19–31

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

<sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### 456 *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

CW 456 sts. 1–4



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, whom heav'n - ly  
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, the faith - ful  
 3 An an - gel bade their sor - row flee, for thus he  
 4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!  
 wom - en went their way to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.  
 spoke un - to the three, “Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee.”  
 came their Lord most dear and said, “My peace be with you here.”



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.  
 Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615;  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

John 20:21-23 “Christ hands over the KEYS!”

### 456 O Sons and Daughters of the King

CW 456 sts. 5–8



5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus  
6 “Thom - as, be - hold my side,” said he, “my hands, my  
7 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied; he saw the  
8 Bless - ed are they that have not seen and yet whose



had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.  
feet, my bod - y see; and doubt not, but be - lieve in me.”  
feet, the hands, the side; “You are my Lord and God,” he cried.  
faith has con - stant been; in life e - ter - nal they shall reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.  
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615;  
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## Offering

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

*Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*

## ***Apostles' Creed***

**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.**

## ***Prayer of the Church***

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we again rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

**When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song;  
and when we sin, be gracious to us and forgive us.**

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow His promises.

**Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.**

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—abolish it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

**Triumph over all our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.**

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful Witness and Firstborn from the dead. As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

**Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.**

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with Your Son in His resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in Your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.  
**Thank you for the power of Baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.**

Hear us, Lord, as we bring before You the people, the issues, the struggles that weigh upon our hearts:

*Silent prayer*

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through Him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father!**  
**Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

**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*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

# 511 Crown Him with Many Crowns

CW 511 sts. 1-3



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
2 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
No an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
His glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,



and hail him as thy match-less King thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.  
but down-ward bends his won-d'ring eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
who died e - ter - nal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Text (sts. 1-2): Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, abr., alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ***Grace Outreach Event***

We're planning another event for children and families this spring – Grace Fun Day. It's planned for Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please speak with Mike if you have any questions, and reply to his email if you can help out and participate. We'll need volunteers to carry this event off.

## ***Bible Classes***

Please consider participating in one (or more) of our weekly classes – Genesis (final lesson this week before we begin Exodus) on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm / Revelation on Thursdays at 6:00 pm. The monthly Parables class on the last Friday of the month (10:30 am at Grace) with the men's and women's lunch out to follow at 11:30 am. The Discovering Grace class on Christian doctrine is available to anyone interested, and you are most welcome to attend one of the classes currently running.

## ***Upcoming Schedule***

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Easter Worship
Today	11:00 am	Potluck lunch
Today	11:45 am	Ladies of Grace / Council (GMC)
Apr. 9	all day	Circuit meetings in Dallas
Apr. 10	3:00 pm	Final Genesis Bible Class
Apr. 11	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Apr. 14	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Apr. 17	3:00 pm	Exodus Bible Class begins
Apr. 18	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
Apr. 18	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Apr. 21	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship
Apr. 22-23	all day	Spring Pastor's Conference (Shiloh)
Apr. 24	3:00 pm	Exodus Bible Class
Apr. 25	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Apr. 26	10:30 am	Parables Bible Class (Grace)
Apr. 26	11:30 am	Ladies' and men's lunch out