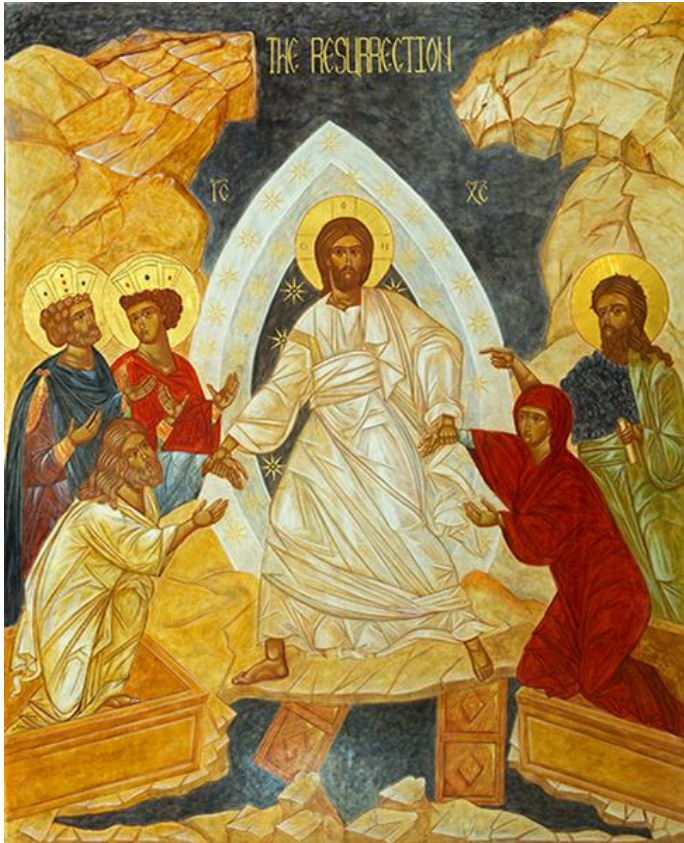


**Easter Sunday
Holy Communion Service
31 March 2024**



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
170 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

6:30 am only Choir - HYMN TIS 359 Christ our Passover

9am only PRELUDE

Partita on Gelobt sei Gott – *van der Hel*

HYMN LH 88 Jesus Christ is risen today

Opening hymn introduction: Brass fanfare on Jesus Christ is Risen today

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

**2 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!**

**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!**

*'Lyra Davidica', 1708
and John Arnold's 'Compleat Psalmist', 1749
Revised, Tate and Brady's 'Supplement', 1816*

OPENING SENTENCE

M: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN LH 95 He is Risen

**1 He is risen, He is risen!
Tell it with a joyful voice;
He has burst His three days' prison,
Let the whole wide world rejoice.
Death is conquered, man is free,
Christ has won the victory.**

**2 Come with high and holy gladness,
Chant our Lord's triumphant lay;
Not one touch of twilight sadness
Dims His resurrection day;
Brightly dawns the radiant east,
Brighter far our Easter feast.**

**3 He is risen, He is risen!
He has opened heaven's gate;
We are free from sin's dark prison,
Risen to a holier state;
Soon a brighter Easter beam
On our longing eyes shall stream.**

Cecil Frances Alexander (1823-1895)

THE CALL TO CONFESS

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

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

C: Yes, I do.

M: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

M: Do you believe in God the Son?

C: 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, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

M: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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. Amen.

M: Do you intend to remain firm in this faith and reflect it in love to God and your neighbour?

C: Yes, I do.

M: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you new birth by water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His Spirit †, so that you receive eternal life

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour, blessing, and glory
are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb for ever.
Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

COLLECT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. O God, since You gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, and to deliver us from the power of the enemy by His glorious resurrection: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may live for ever with Him who died and rose again for us; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

CHOIR Psalm 118:1-2,14-24 – *chant by E. J. Hopkins (1818-1901) LH 715*

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

CHOIR Gospel Acclamation – Alleluia! *Michael Praetorius (1561-1623)*

THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 16:1-8

Before the Gospel

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

After the Gospel

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

CHOIR This is the day – *Thomas Morley (1557-1602)*

HYMN LH 103 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.**

**3 He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above,
He lives my hungry soul to feed,
He lives to help in time of need.**

**4 He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend,
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my prophet, priest, and king.**

**5 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.**

**6 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
O the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

Samuel Melody (1738-1799)

SERMON

CHOIR Christ the Lord is risen again! – *Rutter*

OFFERTORY

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all: unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with Your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

HYMN LH 91 Christ the Lord is risen today

**1 Christ the Lord is risen today:
Christians, haste your vows to pay;
Offer ye your praises meet
At the paschal victim's feet.
For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
Sinless in the sinner's stead.
'Christ is risen!' today we cry;
Now He lives no more to die.**

**2 Christ, the victim undefiled,
Man to God has reconciled;
Whilst in strange and awful strife
Met together death and life.
Christians, on this happy day
Haste with joy your vows to pay.
'Christ is risen!' today we cry;
Now He lives no more to die.**

**3 Christ, who once for sinners bled,
Now the first-born from the dead,
Throned in endless might and power,
Lives and reigns for evermore.
Hail, eternal hope on high!
Hail, Thou king of victory!
Hail, Thou prince of life adored!
Help and save us, gracious Lord.**

*Victimae paschali laudes
Wipo (c.990- after 1048)
Tr. Jane Eliza Leeson, 1853, alt.*

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

M: It is indeed right and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for He is the true Passover lamb who gave himself to take away our sins, who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

M: All praise and thanks be to You eternal God, holy Father, together with Your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit who unites all Your people in love. We thank You for creating all things. We thank You for calling and rescuing Your chosen people. Above all we thank and praise You for keeping Your promise to the people of old, and sending Your Son Jesus Christ, whose life, death and resurrection for our salvation we remember as He comes to us in this holy meal.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me. In the same way He took the cup, after the supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said, Drink of it all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

M: Send us Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith, so that we who receive the body and blood of Christ may live as true members of the body of Your Son.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

M: Join our prayers with those of Your servants of every time and place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until He comes as victorious Lord of all.

C: Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

M: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and for ever. Amen.

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**C: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN LH 834 At the Lamb's High Feast

**1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide
flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia.**

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
gives His sacred blood for wine,
gives His body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia.

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia.

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.
Alleluia.

5 Mighty victim from on high,
hell's fierce powers beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia.

6 Now no more can death appal,
now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
and in You Your saints shall rise.
Alleluia.

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy,
only sin can this destroy;
from sin's power set free, O Lord,
souls that are in you restored.
Alleluia.

8 Hymns of glory and of praise,
risen Lord, to You we raise;
Father, praise is ever due,
with the Spirit, unto You.
Alleluia.

CHOIR Most glorious Lord of life – *Harris*

HYMN LH 89 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands

1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands,
For our offences given;
But now at God's right hand He stands,
And brings us life from heaven;
Wherefore let us joyful be,
And sing to God right thankfully
Our songs of hallelujah.
Hallelujah!

2 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 clearly saith
That death is swallowed up by death,
His sting is lost for ever.
Hallelujah!

3 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.
The murderer cannot harm us.
Hallelujah!

4 So let us keep the festival
Whereto the Lord invites us;
Christ is Himself the joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
By His grace He doth impart
Eternal sunshine to the heart;
The night of sin is ended.
Hallelujah!

**5 Then let us keep the feast today
That God Himself hath given,
And His pure Word shall do away
The old and evil leaven;
Christ alone our souls can feed,
He is our meat and drink indeed;
Our faith would seek no other.
Hallelujah!**

*Christ lag in Todesbanden
Martin Luther (1483-1546)
Tr. Richard Massie, 1854, alt.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Lasst uns erfreuen – *Paul Manz*

DISMISSAL

M: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life eternal. Go in peace.†
C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

C: **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

M: Let us pray: Almighty God, You have overcome death through Your Son Jesus Christ, and have opened for us the gate to eternal life. As You have given us the benefits of His death and resurrection in this sacrament, help us continually to bring them to good effect in our lives. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, † and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN LH 97 The strife is o'er

**1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
But Jesus hath His foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**3 On the third morn He rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**4 He broke the bonds of death and hell;
The bars from heaven's high portals fell;
Let hymns of joy His triumph tell.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Finita iam sunt praelia
'Symphonia Sirenum' (Cologne), 1695
Tr. Francis Pott, 1859
and 'Hymns Ancient and Modern', 1875*

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Suite Gothique – *Boëllmann*

Pastor: Fraser Pearce, Tom Pietsch
Organist: Gina Dutschke
Trumpeters: Andrew and Charlotte Newhouse
The Bethlehem Choir
Choir Director: Kim Worley