

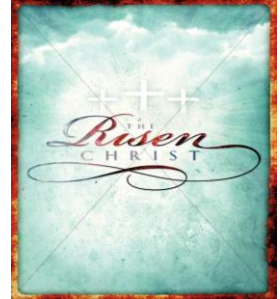


LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Growing Family of Faith

April 18, 2021

3rd Sunday of Easter



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL GREETING

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP (please rise as you are able)

P: We are called together to worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen!**

P. Christ is risen. **C. He is risen indeed!**

P. Hope is alive. **C. A new age is dawning.**

P. Joy is alive. **C. Redemption is here.**

P. Love is alive. **C. Death cannot harm us.**

P. We are alive. **C. New life is within us.**

P. The church is alive. **C. God's spirit is within us.**

ALL: God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you!

GATHERING SONG "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

P: Most merciful God,

C. We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Congregational response: **AMEN**

(Please be seated)

WORSHIP SONG "Because He Lives"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FIRST LESSON

R. The first lesson is from the book of 1 John 3:1-7:

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but

we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

R. This is the word of the Lord **C. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM R. The responsive Psalm is Psalm 4:

R. Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

C. ² O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

R. ³ But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

C. ⁴ Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

R. ⁵ Offer right sacrifices and put your trust in the LORD.

C. ⁶ There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"

R. ⁷ You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

C. ⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

R. Here ends the reading of the Psalm. Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL LESSON (Please rise as you are able)

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke chapter 24, verses 36-48:

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

SERMON SONG “Amazing Grace”

MESSAGE Pastor Michael Birnbaum

OFFERING PRAYER and PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (please rise as you are able)

(Offering plates located at rear-thank you thank you, thank you!)

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray.....**C. Bountiful God; we come with our offerings in response to your love.**

With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. Receive the work we do and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight. AMEN

Following general prayers, you are encouraged to share other prayer concerns out loud.

Please close your prayer concern with “Lord in your mercy”.

HOLY COMMUNION

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P. It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending proclamation:

**C. (singing) Holy, holy, holy,
My heart, my heart adores You!
My heart is glad to say, the words:
You are holy, Lord!**

Communion Prayer, Consecration of Elements, Lord's Prayer

(Please be seated during distribution of communion)

We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table who shares the Biblical belief that He is present (1 Cor. 10:16) and our sins are being forgiven as He promises (Matt.26:28). This sacrament is a truly wonderful opportunity to share this miracle and our oneness as the Body of Christ together! (1Cor. 10:17-18)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING/BENEDICTION *(please rise as you are able)*

SENDING SONG "I Saw the Light"

P. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God!**
P. Christ is Risen! **C. He is Risen indeed!**

God Bless You!

Invite a friend or relative to worship with us!



COMING UP:

- April 21, 28 Men's Bible Study and Fellowship, 9 AM at church
- April 25-4th Sunday of Easter
- **April 25-CELEBRATION OF LIFE KENNETH BOURLIER**-see full information on card on back table
- April 29-KEMA meets
- May 3-Council meets at church, 5 PM

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us
 Chorus You came from heaven
 To earth, To show the way
 From the earth to the cross
 My debt to pay
 From the cross to the grave
 From the grave to the sky
 Lord I lift Your name on high

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Because He Lives (Amen)

I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood
 Chorus: Amen, amen
 I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
 Amen amen
 Let my song join the one that never ends
 (Because He lives)
I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away
 Chorus
Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life
My future in His hand

Because He lives

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Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

God's grace has taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

The Lord has promised good to me
His Word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

And when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun

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I Saw the Light

Praise the Lord, I saw the light!

I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

Chorus: I saw the light I saw the light
No more in darkness no more night
Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Just like a blind man I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own
Then like the blind man that God gave back his
sight

Praise the Lord, I saw the light

Chorus, repeat X 2

Praise the Lord, I saw the light

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