



Rite of Confirmation
April 4, 2026
7PM

AS WE GATHER

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS is celebrated in accordance with the Lutheran confession that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us with the bread and wine to give forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Missouri-Synod Lutherans united with us in that confession are invited to receive the Sacrament with us. Others who desire to commune should first speak with a Pastor or an Elder.

- For those whose health or circumstance may require it, Holy Cross offers an alcohol-removed red wine (containing less than 0.5% alcohol) located in the center of each Communion tray.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to a Pastor or Elder before the service.
- If you want communion in the pew, please let an usher or Elder know before the service.
- Individual Communion cups: The Board of Elders and Altar Guild request that communicants **not** stack the plastic cups in the baskets after use at communion. The cups still hold traces of *consecrated wine* and must be rinsed with water before being disposed of on the ground. Stacked cups stick together and hinder the rinsing process. Thanks for understanding!

ATTENDANCE PADS

We invite members and guests alike to take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. Please provide contact information if you are interested in membership or if you would like to be contacted by the church. After signing, please pass it to your neighbor and then return it to its spot by the aisle.

LIVE-STREAMING

Holy Cross will live stream all Holy Week services on a link at our website (hcross.com). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

OFFERING & RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

We ask that all worshipers take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. If you are interested in membership, please provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you. Thank you.

ABOUT THE SERVICE

The Easter Vigil is an ancient rite that consists of four distinct services: **The Service of Light**, the **Service of Readings**, the **Service of Baptism**, and the **Service of Holy Communion**. It marks the end of Triduum, and the beginning of the Easter service by remembering God's Plan of salvation for His people. It does this through recounting the many deeds of God throughout scripture, with special emphasis on the crossing of the Red Sea, which foreshadows how we move from death to life in Baptism, connected, at the same time, with Christ's own journey from death to life.

The Service of Light presents, quite heavily, the themes of darkness and light. It begins toward sundown, with a fire kindled, reminiscent of night watchers going about their duty. The Paschal candle is blessed, and instituted to serve a new year symbolizing Christ's resurrected presence among His people. Just as a pillar of fire led God's people through the wilderness, this pillar of fire leads the congregation into the sanctuary they left on Good Friday in darkness. The light is gradually distributed and culminates in the proclamation of Christ's resurrection, the Light which the darkness could not overcome.

One of the unique aspects of the Easter Vigil is the **Service of Readings**, where we recount the outstanding deeds of the history of salvation where God continually delivers His people. These deeds are recalled in six readings from the Old Testament. The readings serve as a precursor to the ultimate fulfillment of each of our own deliverances through the Resurrection of our Lord which we celebrate this evening. The faithful are encouraged to meditate on these stories of deliverance with the music and/or prayers that follow each reading.

The **Service of Baptism** dates back to the earliest days of Christianity, when those who were brought into faith would be baptized as the Church celebrated Christ's resurrection. After all, what is Baptism but a connection to this event! In this service we are reminded of the promises God made to us in Baptism, and how the Holy Spirit works in us through it; specifically, how He causes us to daily die to sin and rise again to new life.

The **Service of Holy Communion** begins with the Easter Acclamation, Christ is risen! At sundown on Saturday, our Lord's rest in the tomb was completed. The church throughout the world wakes up from its slumber to hear the good news the women bring from the tomb, and because of that, we now rejoice with a feast that brings to our minds that feast we will forever enjoy because of what our Savior has accomplished in these three days.

In this service, we join into a practice and observance that ties us to those who came before us — to those Christians who held vigil in secret, hiding from the Roman Emperor, and even to those Christians who kept it in Constantine's courts and beyond! We now add our time and place to this wonderful practice that reminds us of how God has triumphed over sin, death, and the power of the devil.

Vigil of Easter

April 4, 2026

7PM

The congregation gathers outside the church. Candles are given to all, later to be lighted from the paschal candle.

In the semidarkness, a fire is kindled.

Service of Light

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

P Let us pray.

O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The pastor traces the cross on the candle while saying:

P Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending,

and then traces the Greek letters Alpha and Omega on the candle while saying:
the Alpha and the Omega.

P His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.

He traces the five points of the cross, saying:

P By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.

Then, lighting the candle from the newly kindled fire, he says:

P May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the

resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

All light their candles from the paschal candle and then follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church.

At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the paschal candle stops and says:

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

When the candle bearer reaches the middle of the nave, he says for the second time:

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

When the candle bearer arrives at the candle stand, he turns to face the congregation.

After all have reached their places, the candle bearer lifts the candle high and says the third time:

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

After the candle bearer places the paschal candle in its stand, the pastor turns to face the people and speaks the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet).

A Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

Preface Dialogue

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 Him thanks and praise.**

Easter Proclamation

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb who offered Himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of His precious blood. This is the night when You brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave You gave Your Son. How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast. How blessed is the night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true light and morning star, shine in our hearts, He who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

All extinguish their candles at this time. The paschal candle remains lighted throughout the service. A few lights in the nave may be turned on.

Please be seated.

Service of Readings

God's people have a long history of recalling stories of Him delivering His people. People would have stayed up all night sharing these stories together. In the Service of Readings, we join in this vigil tradition, sharing many times in the Old Testament in which God has delivered his people, while eagerly anticipating our ultimate deliverance as His people through the events of this night.

P In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Each story's text can be found in the Bible you find in your pew. References and page numbers are listed.

The Creation: Genesis 1:1-2:3

p. 1-2

A A reading from Genesis, chapters one and two.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Flood: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

p. 5-7

A A reading from Genesis, chapters seven, eight, and nine.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark. Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ's body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea: Exodus 14:10—15:1

p. 56-57

A A reading from Exodus, chapters 14 and 15.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad - ness!
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on
 4 For to - day a-mong His own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,
 And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;
 His deep peace, which ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
 All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing
 Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 Nor the watch - ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.

Salvation Offered Freely to All: *Isaiah 55:1-11*

p. 616-617

A A reading from Isaiah, chapter 55.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your creation. Grant now the water of life to all who thirst for You that they may bring forth abundant fruit in Your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. ur Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Fiery Furnace: *Daniel 3:1-30*

p. 739-740

A A reading from Daniel, chapter three.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

A "Canticle" is a song that comes directly from scripture. To conclude the Service of Readings, we join in singing a canticle reflecting on all the great things God has done and will do in the words of Mary's song, the Magnificat.

Canticle: Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord LSB 935

Please Stand



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of His Word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it voice;
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
Pow'rs and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is His prom - ise, and His mer - cy sure.



Ten - der to me the prom - ise of His Word;
His mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.
His ho - ly name, the Lord, the Might - y One.
The hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
To chil - dren's chil - dren and for - ev - er - more!

Please Be Seated

Service of Holy Baptism and Confirmation

Just as we heard earlier of God delivering His people from their slavery in Egypt by drowning their captors in the Red Sea, so too do we remember our own deliverance through the drowning of our enemy, sin, in the waters of Baptism.

- P** On this holiest of nights, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Gospel of His glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul says:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold us all according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam and which we ourselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C** **Amen.**

Please Stand

P Do you renounce the devil?

C **Yes, I renounce him.**

P Do you renounce all his works?

C **Yes, I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce all his ways?

C **Yes, I renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

C **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C **Yes, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C **Yes, 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.**

Please be seated

Rite of Confirmation

P You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

- P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen.**

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing and passage of Holy Scripture. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

Jocelyn Irene Elick

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
plans to prosper you and not harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future. ~ *Jeremiah 29:11*

Lila Beth Gimbel

Set your mind on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ~ *Colossians 3:2*

Kason Michael Smith

Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord. ~ *2 Timothy 1:8*

- P** *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.
- R** Amen.
- P** Peace † be with you.
- C** **Amen.**

Following the Rite of Confirmation, candidates and ministers return to their places.



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Litany of the Resurrection

Please stand

- A** O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
- A** O Christ,
C **have mercy.**
- A** O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
- A** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C **hear us.**
- A** Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,
C **have mercy on us.**

- A** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By Your victory over sin and death,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By the majesty of Your risen body,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** We poor sinners implore You
- C** **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**
- A** That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness,
- C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,
- C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,
- C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **grant us Your peace.**
- A** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy.**
- A** O Christ,
- C** **have mercy.**
- A** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy. Amen.**

Service of Holy Communion

The following acclamation is repeated three times, each increasing in volume, as we proclaim the great victory of this night.

Easter Acclamation

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The paschal candle is now moved into the chancel. The altar candles may be lighted from the paschal candle. Lights in the church are turned on, bells are rung, the chancel is decorated, and the altar is prepared for the Sacrament while the congregation sings the Hymn of Praise.



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
 △ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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!

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Preface

LSB 160

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 Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 161

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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.**

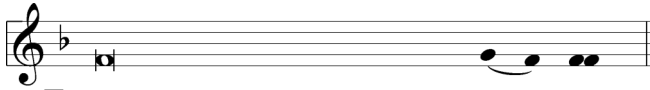
Words of Our Lord *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

P 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 the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Peace of the Lord

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God"

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Distribution

Please be seated

Please see notice on page 2.

Communion hymns are printed in the bulletin starting on page 21.

LSB 633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

**5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!**

**6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!**

**7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!**

**△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!**

LSB 603 "We Know That Christ Is Raised"



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.



Em-braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;
Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.



And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

LSB 459 "Christ is Arisen"



1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark



pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;



Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!



2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still



our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,



We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;



Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

LSB 478 "The Day of Resurrection"



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
 △ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
 The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
 Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
 All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
 And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
 His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
 For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
 And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

Dismissal

Please Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

Easter Acclamation

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Closing Hymn

see next page

Postlude: Toccata on "Auf, Auf, Mein Herz"

David Gilson

Closing Hymn: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490, sts. 1,4-5



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com - mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Pręschool

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Serving in God's House on April 4, 2026

Officers	Pastor Andrew J. Gimbel Pastor Jason P. Kohm
Director of Christian Education	Charity Smith
Director of Music	David Gilson
Musicians	Beginning Handbell Choirs
Elder	Brian Belter
Ushers	Refer to Elder

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Join Us For Easter Worship

EASTER Sunday, April 5, 2026

Easter Worship with Communion at all services

7AM, 9AM, & 11AM EASTER WORSHIP

Easter Breakfast in gym between services, 7am-11am

No Sunday School or Bible Study.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

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David Gilson
Director of Music

Dani Richardson
Preschool Director

Joyce Niewald
Church Secretary



With the help of God,
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
grows disciples
and transforms hearts
for Christ.