

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**April 27, 2025**  
***“Jesus Is The Alpha and The Omega”***

**THE WELCOME**

**THE OPENING HYMN #463** *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia”*



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

*(please stand)*

**THE INVOCATION AND OPENING RESPONSES**

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

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

**THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Romans 6:4*

**P:** As we gather together in the new life Christ has won for us, we confess our sins to God and ask His forgiveness. Paul writes, “Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Reflect upon and confess your sins before God.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

P: We confess:

**C: Most merciful God, we are unworthy of Your love because we have sinned by what we have done and left undone. We have at times abandoned the new life given to us through our Savior's work by sinning against You and others in thought, word, and deed. We lock up in ourselves feelings of guilt, shame, and doubt. We often seek peace for ourselves in ways outside of the peace for our souls that Christ has come to bring. Forgive us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

**THE INTROIT** Psalm 105:1–5, 8; *antiphon*: 1 Peter 2:2–3

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,  
that by it you may grow up to salvation—

**C: surely you have tasted that the Lord is good!**

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;

**C: make known His deeds among the peoples!**

P: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!

**C: Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

P: Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually!

**C: Remember the wondrous works that He has done,  
His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.**

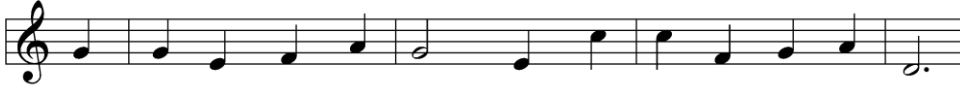
P: He remembers His covenant forever,

**C: the Word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,  
that by it you may grow up to salvation—

**C: surely you have tasted that the Lord is good!**

## THE HYMN OF PRAISE #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!

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we, who have celebrated the Lord's Resurrection, may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*(please be seated)*

## THE FIRST READING Acts 5:12; 17-32 (ESV)

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief

priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this Man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree. God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **THE EPISTLE** Revelation 1:4-18 (ESV)

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around His chest. The hairs of His head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength. When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the First and the Last, and the living One. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*(please stand)*

### **THE VERSE** *(sung)* (#465, verse 2)

**Eternal is the gift He brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL** John 20:19-31 (ESV)

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

**C:** *(spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe." Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** *(spoken)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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.**

**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.**

*(please be seated)*

## **THE MEMORY VERSE** *The Sixth Commandment and Meaning* (Luther's Small Catechism)

**You shall not commit adultery. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.**

## **THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## THE HYMN OF THE DAY #480 "He's Risen, He's Risen"



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
 2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
 3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,  
 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
 Δ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.  
 The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
 And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.  
 Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
 Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
 In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
 The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;  
 For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;  
 Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.  
 For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
 He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.  
 Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.  
 With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001990  
 Tune: Public domain

*(please be seated)*

**THE SERMON** "Jesus Is The Alpha and The Omega" Text: Revelation 1:4-18

**THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS** (#470, verses 1 & 8)

1) O sons and daughters of the King,  
 Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,  
 Today the grave has lost its sting!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

8) How blest are they who have not seen  
 And yet whose faith has constant been,  
 For they eternal life shall win.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*(please stand)*

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Each petition concludes with the following response: "Lord, in Your mercy," "hear our prayer.")*

## THE 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.

## THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✕ give you peace.

C: Amen.

*(please be seated)*

## THE CLOSING HYMN #488 "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word"

He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled

is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.

My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -

rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.

O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,

Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS