

# Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Pastor Mark S. Voss  
Easter Festival  
April 8, 2007

*Easter Anthem – Sr. Choir*

*“Resurrection Alleluias”*

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## The Lord Has Risen



### *Opening Verses*

From Luke 24:5-6; 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57; John 11:25-26

*P: Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; the Lord has risen!*

*C: He has risen indeed!*

*P: The Lord has risen!*

*C: He has risen indeed!*

*P: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? Death has been swallowed up in victory!*

*C: Christ has risen indeed!*

*P: Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.”*

*C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*P: The Lord has risen!*

*C: He has risen indeed! Alleluia!*

*Sing: Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!  
Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!*

## **Confession and Absolution**

*P: Eternal God, our Father, we are mindful of the disciples and their lack of loyalty during the trial and crucifixion of our Savior.*

*C: We confess that we have also failed you.*

*P: We have placed you on trial before our friends and associates and sometimes we have deserted you.*

*C: Grant us forgiveness for all our sins, as you forgave the disciples.*

*P: Bring new hope to our hearts.*

*C: As you did to them on that first Easter morning . . .*



**Sing:**            **At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from his piercé'd side. Alleluia!**  
**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!**  
**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!**

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**Prayer of the Day**    *C: (sing) "Amen."*

**Old Testament Lesson – Exodus 15:1-11 “Victory Foreshadowed”** <sup>1</sup>Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. <sup>2</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. <sup>3</sup>The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name. <sup>4</sup>Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. <sup>5</sup>The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone. <sup>6</sup>"Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy. <sup>7</sup>In the greatness of your majesty you threw down those who opposed you. You unleashed your burning anger; it consumed them like stubble. <sup>8</sup>By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up. The surging waters stood firm like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea. <sup>9</sup>The enemy boasted, 'I will pursue, I will overtake them. I will divide the spoils; I will gorge myself on them. I will draw my sword and my hand will destroy them.' <sup>10</sup>But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters. <sup>11</sup>"Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you-- majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?"

## **Musical Selection - Senior Choir**

**“Christ is Risen From the Dead”**

G. F. Handel, Words and Arrangement by Walter Ehret © 2006 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

**Epistle Lesson – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 “The Gospel We Preach and Believe”** <sup>1</sup>Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them--yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

**Sing: He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord;  
The gates of heav'n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die,  
And Satan's arrows broken lie,  
Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon. Oh, hear What cheer! Christ victorious,  
Rising glorious, Life is giving. He was dead, but now is living!**

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**Gospel Lesson – Matthew 28:1-10**

**“An Empty Tomb”** <sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."



**Sing: Morning breaks upon the tomb; Jesus scatters all its gloom.  
Day of triumph through the skies, See the glorious Savior rise.  
You who are of death afraid, Triumph in the scattered shade.  
Drive your anxious cares away; See the place where Jesus lay.  
Christian, dry your flowing tears; Chase your unbelieving fears.  
Look on his deserted grave; Doubt no more his pow'r to save.**

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**Sermon**

**THE HIDDEN GLORY OF THE CROSS**

**Matthew 28:1-10**

**“Hidden In an Empty Tomb”**

**Sing: 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!  
He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears.  
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives, all blessings to impart.  
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.  
He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: "I know that my Redeemer lives!"**

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## **Confession of Faith**

*P: Heavenly Father, God of grace*

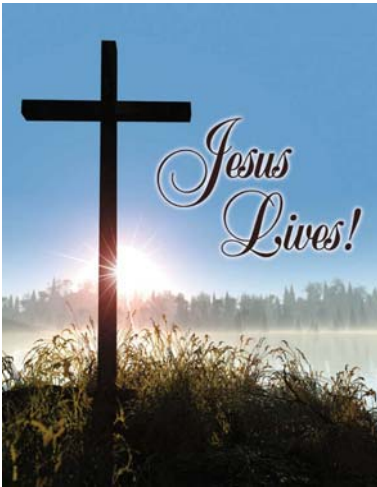
*C: you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.  
We marvel at your love and your mighty power.*

*P: Lord Jesus, God of grace*

*C: you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death and the grave. With the church of every age we offer you unending praise.*

*P: Holy Spirit, God of grace*

*C: you have called us by the Gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord. Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.*



## **Offering**

**Musical Selection – Children’s Choir**

**“Jesus Lives”**

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**Easter Prayer**

## **Blessing**

*P: Go forth and tell everyone that Jesus is alive. Tell them Jesus triumphed over death and the grave. Tell them Jesus dwells in our lives and blesses us with this promise “Because I live, you also will live.”*

*C: Christ is risen.*

*P: He is risen indeed!*

## **Closing Verses**

**He's risen, he's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;  
He opened death's prison, the incarnate Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song  
And earth, sea, and mountain the praises prolong.**

**The Foe was triumphant when on Calvary The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer, For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.**

**But short was their triumph; The Savior arose,  
And death, hell, and Satan he vanquished, his foes.  
The conquering Lord lifts his banner on high;  
He lives, yes, he lives, and will nevermore die.**

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***To all of you, both new friends and old friends...***

**† A MOST BLESSED EASTER †**

***Christ Our Redeemer Church – [www.corchurch.com](http://www.corchurch.com) 303-337-0025***