



Easter Festival Worship
Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 12th, 2020 West Bend, WI

Easter Sunday leads me to ask myself, "Am I out of touch with reality?" Often the answer is "Yes!" in the same way as we see it in: Mary Magdalen and the other women, Peter and John, and the Emmaus disciples. The risen Christ, however, can fix that with even a simple word like "Mary." He speaks to us to remind us that his resurrection has established a glorious spiritual reality.

M: We greet you this Easter Sunday in a new way, but with a most familiar greeting.

M: Christ is risen!

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

M: All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.

C: **We were buried with him through baptism into death**

M: In order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father,

C: **We too may live a new life.**

M: Since we have been united with him like this in his death,

C: **We will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.**

M: We know that our old self was crucified with him

C: **So that we should no longer be slaves to sin**

M: Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

C: **We know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again;**

M: The death he died, he died to sin once for all;

C: **but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

M: In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin

C: **but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

M: Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

C: **But rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life.**

M: Christ is risen!

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

Amen.

"This Is the Feast of Victory"

The Good Shepherd Virtual Choir
Joshua Kramer, Director

Text: Samuel Crossman
Tune: John N. Ireland
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ISAIAH 25:6–9 (NIV)

⁶ On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷ On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. ⁹ In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51–57 (NIV)

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia. (Psalm 118:24)

JOHN 20:1–18 (NIV)

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” ³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. ¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. ¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). ¹⁷ Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

“I Will Rise”

The Martin Luther College Choir
Kermit Moldenhauer, Director

Text: Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Louis Giglio and Matt Maher
Arranged: Craig Courtney and Lynda Hasseler
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SERMON ON JOHN 20:1-18

If I Find Myself Out of Touch with Reality this Easter,
Jesus Can Fix That With a Word!

THE OFFERING

PRAYER FOR EASTER DAY

O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.

Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.

Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: **Amen.**