

# Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

## Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

*Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life*

69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144

info@clcathens.org • www.clchathens.org

### INTRODUCTION

*"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

### WELCOME

**(PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)**

*Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice  
we should praise the invisible God, and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin.  
For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain,  
by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which, in ancient times,  
you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel,  
and led them, dry-shod, through the sea.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which the darkness of sin has been purged away by the rising brightness.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin,  
are renewed in grace, and are restored to holiness.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which, breaking the chains of death, Christ arises from hell in triumph.  
O night truly blessed which alone was worthy to know  
the time and hour in which Christ arose again from hell!

This is the night **[This is the night]**

of which it is written: "The night is as clear as the day,"  
and, "then shall my night be turned into day."

The holiness of this night puts to flight the deeds of wickedness;  
washes away sin; restores innocence to the fallen,  
and joy to those who mourn; casts out hate; brings peace;  
and humbles earthly pride.

Therefore, in this night of grace,  
receive, O God, our praise and thanksgiving  
for the light of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
reflected in the burning of this candle.  
We sing the glories of this pillar of fire,  
the brightness of which is not diminished  
even when its light is divided and borrowed.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which heaven and earth are joined—things human and things divine.

We, therefore, pray to you, O God,  
that this candle, burning to the honor of your name,  
will continue to vanquish the darkness of night  
and be mingled with the lights of heaven.  
May Christ the Morning Star find it burning,  
that Morning Star who never sets,  
that Morning Star who, rising from the grave,  
faithfully sheds light on the whole human race.  
And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve  
with your continual protection your whole church,  
giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing;  
through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### **EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### GATHERING SONG

### *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (ELW 365)*

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## ANTHEM

*Easter Anthem*

CLC Choir

Christian Yoder, Director

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

<sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

<sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

A reading from 1 Corinthians

<sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

<sup>21</sup> For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup> for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices

that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.


The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

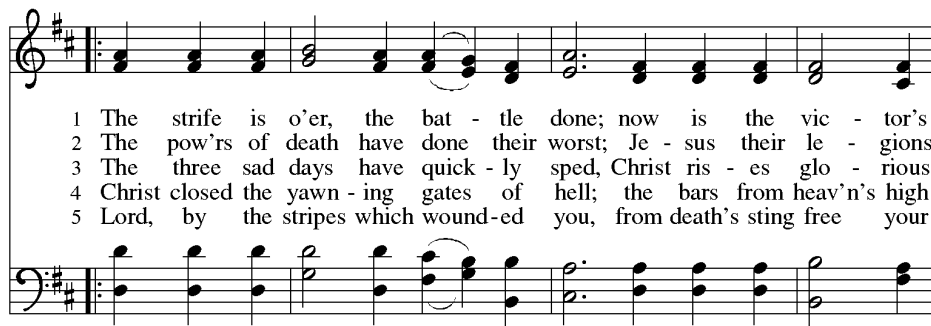
## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### *The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done (ELW 366)*

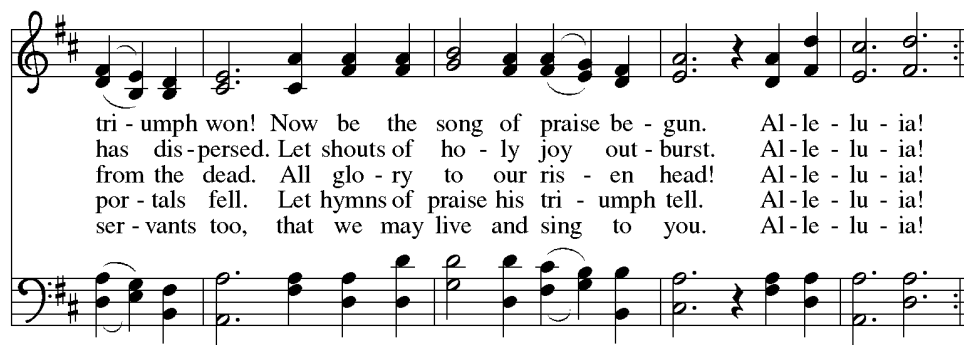


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions  
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious  
 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high  
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your

Continued on next page...



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909  
 Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823–1889

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

### *A brief silence.*

God of the bright and morning star,

God of the rising sun,

God of darkness banished,

we praise you and worship you!

For empty tombs: **We Thank you.**

For disciples running with good news: **We thank you.**

For your presence, alive, powerful, resurrected: **We thank you.**

We celebrate your victory over death and over all the powers that would defeat us.

Help us to grasp resurrection;

to understand its power,

to see its force at work in our world

For overturning evil empires: **We thank you.**

For changing the hatred within us: **We thank you.**

For moving the world slowly, forcefully, and bending us towards love and truth. **We thank you.**

On this day of great gladness

empower us to be your ambassadors, proclaiming good news.

Good news in our kitchens and living rooms,  
good news in our offices and workshops  
good news in our fields and factories  
And for helping us to be that good news,  
walking softly on this good earth and caring gently for all people, **We thank you.**

Today we think of all who are grieving, especially.....  
for the sick and dying.....  
for places in the world that are torn by war and bloodshed.....  
and for all others who need our prayers.....  
In this world of broken hopes and dreams  
we catch sight of your kingdom come,  
in the person of Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns in us forever. **AMEN**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### **OFFERING – THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.**

Giving is easy online through our website at <https://www.clcathens.org/give>

There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

### **OFFERTORY**

#### ***Easter Morning***

**Words and Music by Christian Yoder**

### **OFFERTORY SONG**

#### ***Create in Me a Clean Heart***

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of love,  
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.  
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.  
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;  
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*(Beloved people of God, all are welcome to receive communion this morning. This table is not Christ Lutheran's table; it is the Lord's table, and the Lord does the inviting. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whatever the state of your faith today — you are welcome here. Jesus makes no exceptions, and so neither do we.)*

## **DIALOGUE**

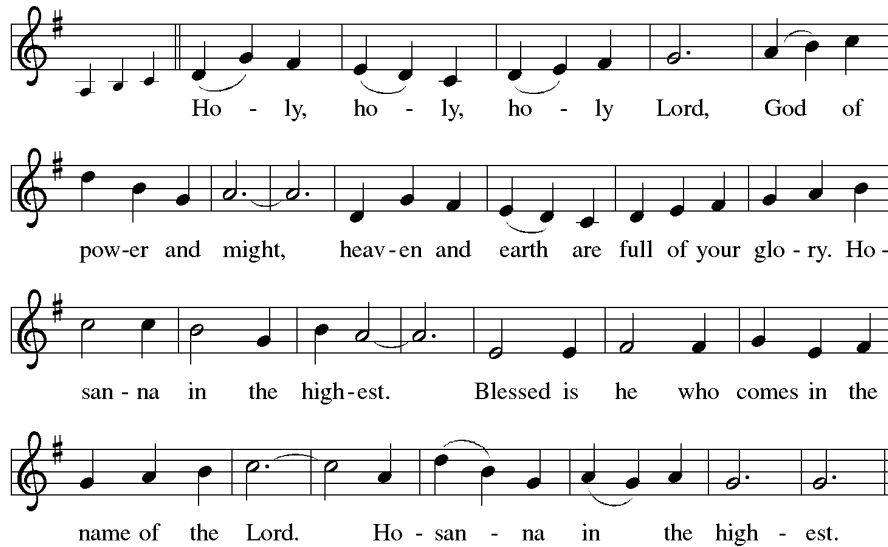
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God...

...Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

**Thanks be to God!**

## COMMUNION

*(To receive communion come forward at the direction of the ushers and take a place at the altar rail. You may stand or kneel as you wish. You will first receive the bread and then may choose to receive either red wine or white grape juice by small glass, or by sipping wine from the chalice. If you choose a small glass you will place it in the empty tray carried by the acolyte. After receiving the bread and wine you will return to your seat. Tell the communion server if you need gluten free bread.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Wellspring of joy,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



# SENDING SONG

## Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! (ELW 377)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent;  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

***SERVING TODAY:*** *Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Organist: George Weckman; Choir Director: Christian Yoder; Pianist: Patricia Cambridge; Choir Accompanist: Donnalee Yoder; Asst/Lector: Pam Cochran; Live Stream: Marilyn Shealy; Time with Children: Puppets!; Ushers: Tim Prange, Nick Claussen; Greeters: Melody, Rachel, Eliza; Acolyte: Rachel; Tray Server: Elyce Friedman*

***Thank you to those who purchased the flowers to decorate our sanctuary!***

***Please take them with you following worship today.***

Jeanne & Luther Haseley	In memory of Kenneth Rengent & Ralph & Endna Rengent
Steve Chikosky	In honor of Lily and Audrey Morar & in memory of Karen Chikosky, Bob & Audrey Murray, Alfred & Elsie Chikosky
Vicki Lamson	In Honor of Jeff Phalen & in memory of Maggie Lamson
Carole Winsley & Mike Householder	
Linda Batey	
JoAnne L'Heureux	In Honor of Everyone
Jane Unger	In memory of Rev. Henry Millhorn
Sam & Adele Hanson	Our Parents
Betsy Winsley	
Betsy Knies	
A friend	In Honor of Pastor Chad
Mike & Kay Cleland	In memory of our Parents
Cathi Schwalbauch	In memory of Beulah Schwalbauch
Mary Kay Kerber	In memory of Karl Runser
Fran Snyder	In memory of Larry & Marc Snyder
Marilyn Shealy	In memory of Freemon & Mary Hanes
Kim Valentour	In memory of Wayne and Mary Spetnagel