

Reflections on Life and Faith from Pastor Gail

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!** I'm very grateful to Bishop Laurie for providing today's sermon. Whenever we have synod gatherings, she preaches for the worship service, and I hope you'll be able to hear her some time in person!



During this time of caring for one another by physical distancing, I've enjoyed sharing with you writings by other pastors/theologians. Today's message was written by Pastor Sara Isbell of Bloomington (IL) Wesley United Methodist Church. I hope it speaks to you as it does to me.

Where is God when we are in trouble and we call out for help? Where is God right now in the midst of Covid 19? People dying, loved ones separated, vulnerable persons isolated, loss of jobs, scarcity of food and resources. Where is God when we need God the most? These are the questions that torment people's minds when they are lost and afraid. When their situation is more than they can bear, and they look around frantically to find a source of help and the salvation they've been promised in the scriptures? "God, where are you? Why don't you take away our fear and our worry? Why don't you take away this virus, and let us get back to our normal lives?" It's a good question, a necessary question, probably for all of us who struggle with God's faithfulness and our own during troubled times. The poets who wrote the Psalms asked it too. "O Lord, why do you hide yourself from me" (Ps12) "O God, why do you cast us off forever?" (74) "When shall I come and behold the face of God?" (42) Where is God?

Preachers have their own answers, most of them theologically solid. God is right with you, we will say, God is right by your side, holding your hand, guiding your path. God would never leave you in the most troubled times; God goes through it with you. I believe these assurances with all my heart; I have said them, preached them, prayed them with others. In fact, I have found them to be true in my own life, especially as I look back. But in the moment of pain those truths can be hard to see, and the theological answer of a preacher may not really address what a person is feeling. So let me turn the question back to you and see if you can tell me: Where is God for you in all this, right now? Look around you wherever you are. Take time to notice. Where are you experiencing comfort? Strength? Healing? Hope? Where are you receiving and giving love? Where are your needs being met beyond your own efforts? And where are you being called out to meet others' needs? That's where God is, Friends, right there with you. It turns out we were never alone after all.

Pr Sara Isbell, directing pastor at Bloomington Wesley United Methodist Church

An Easter Message from Bishop Pederson

The great evangelist, Billy Graham, was honored at a banquet and told the following story about Albert Einstein.

Einstein was once traveling from Princeton on a train when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger.

When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn't find his ticket, so he reached in his trouser pockets. It wasn't there, so he looked in his briefcase but couldn't find it. Then he looked in the seat beside him. He still couldn't find it.

The conductor said, "Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it."

Einstein nodded appreciatively. The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for his ticket.

The conductor rushed back and said, "Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry, I know who you are. No problem. You don't need a ticket. I'm sure you bought one."

Einstein looked at him and said, "Young man, I too, know who I am. What I don't know is where I'm going."

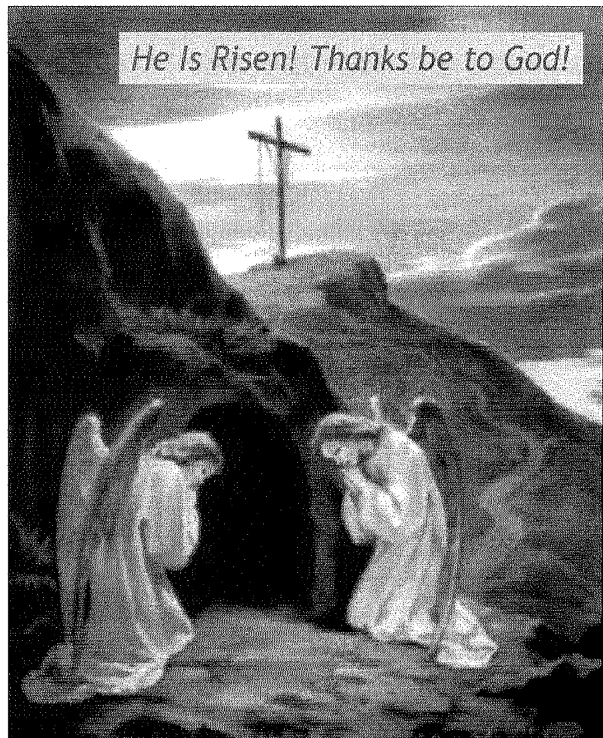
Having said that, Billy Graham continued, "See the suit I'm wearing? It's a brand new suit. My wife, my children, and my grandchildren are telling me I've gotten a little slovenly in my old age. I used to be a bit more fastidious. So I went out and bought a new suit for this luncheon and one more occasion.

You know what that occasion is? This is the suit in which I'll be buried. But when you hear I'm dead, I don't want you to immediately remember the suit I'm wearing. I want you to remember this: I not only know who I am . . . I also know where I'm going."

"As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.'" Mark 16:5-6

"He has been raised; he is not here." These are words of holy promise which ensure that we know where we are going. The Lord of the cross and empty tomb grants life to all who trust in him.

May the Easter promise fill you with confidence and joy in the God who has defeated death so that we might live, *now and forever*. We know where we're going!





Because Christ is risen, so will we!

Blessings to Judy Totzke who prepared our Altar for the Easter celebration of our risen Lord in spite of our stay-at-home precautions on Easter Sunday. It is all ready for when we will gather together in celebratory worship again, at last!

Thanks Judy!

St. John/St. Stephen Lutheran Parish ELCA, Mission Statement:

“Saints united to be the body of Christ in the world, freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.”

Pastor: Gail Sowell

April 19, 2020,

Second Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2020

Call to Worship

Psalm 16

(see The Scriptures page 1)

Confession of Sins: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you, and for which I justly deserve your punishment. I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

Receive the Words of Absolution: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved! In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

Gathering Song

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

LBW #151 , ELW #365 (Songs p.1)

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A reading from Acts chapter 2

(see The Scriptures page 1)

A reading from 1 Peter chapter 1

(see The Scriptures pages 1 & 2)

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

(see The Scriptures page 2)

Sermon

Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson (attached, on the back of the CREED)

Sermon Song

The Day of Resurrection!

LBW #141 , ELW#361

(sing to the tune of "Lead on, O King Eternal)

Apostle's Creed

(see The Scriptures page 3)

Prayers

(see The Scriptures page 3)

Offering song

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings

LBW #565, ELW #884 (Songs p.2)

Sending Song

Thine Is the Glory

LBW #145, ELW #376 (Songs p.3)

Dearly Beloved,
Grace and Peace to you.

In the beginning
God said *Let there be light*
and the light entered the
darkness
and changed it forever.

The darkness is still dark,
but full of light;
and the darkness
cannot limit the light.

• *And now God has said Let*
• *there be life*
• *and the life has entered*
• *death*
• *and changed it forever.*

• *Death is still death,*
• *but full of life;*
• *and death cannot limit life.*

• *Christ has died*
• *and entered into our death*
• *and changed it forever.*

• *Christ is risen,*
• *risen into us,*
• *and we are changed forever,*
• *the Body of Christ.*

• *We are still ourselves,*
• *but full of Christ,*
• *and the self cannot limit*
• *the Christ in us.*

• *Christ is risen;*
• *we are risen indeed.*

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light
www.unfoldinglight.net

Call to Worship

Psalm 16

Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.”
As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight.
The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips.

LORD, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

A Reading from Acts, the 2nd Chapter (2: 14a, 22-32)

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: *(Peter quotes Psalm 16, appears above)*

“I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.”

“Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendents on his throne. Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.”

A Reading from 1 Peter, the 1st Chapter (1: 3-9)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, *(cont. on next page)*

A Reading from 1 Peter, the 1st Chapter (1: 3-9) Continued...

...who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter (20: 19-31)

Glory to you, O Lord!

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" but he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though 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; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Creed: God has made us his beloved children through our baptism into Christ. Despite the distancing required at this time, we confess our faith as part of the body of Christ, the communion of saints, the fellowship of believers:

(Continues on next page.)

Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church:

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Open the doors we close, O God, when we fear those who worship you in different ways. Guide us to unity and harmony so that we may come to respect and cherish our commonalities. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Open the paths we ignore, O God, when we prioritize financial gain and convenience over listening to the groaning of the earth. Inspire all to care for the world you have made so that living things might thrive. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Open the rooms we lock, O God, to those who live without a homeland or place of safety. We pray that generous nations offer refuge and peace for all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.



• Open the hearts we close, O God, to the cries of those in pain.

• We pray for those isolated physically or emotionally through incarceration, addiction, mental illness, chronic suffering, grief, and all in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

• **hear our prayer.**

• Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially those who find themselves in harm's way.

• (*Here other worldwide ministries may be named.*) Lord, in your mercy,

• **hear our prayer.**

• *Here other intercessions may be offered.*

• Open the way to eternal life, O God, as we remember those who have died in faith (*especially Olavus Petri and Laurentius Petri, renewers of the church*). Free us from the fear of death, that we embrace the peace you have promised. Lord, in your mercy,

• **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dear friends, Christ is risen, he is risen in deed!

I'm Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson. I serve as the Bishop of the NWSWI. Today is the Sunday after Easter. It has been over a month since many of us have worshiped together inside our church buildings. The novelty of worshiping online has worn off. This is a difficult time. We isolated, staying safe at home, we are learning to be and do God's work in new ways, staying home to stop the spread of the coronavirus. It sounds strange to say, but staying home is how we love our neighbors as ourselves these days.

As Bishop of the NWSWI I am grateful for your partnership in ministry as we continue to do God's work with our hands even though we can't be together in the same place. The hungry are still be fed, the Bible camps are still gearing up for summer camp, campus pastors are staying in touch with college students, Lutheran Disaster Response is still finding ways to help those who survived the recent tornado in Nashville, LWR is still distributing the quilts you made around the world, LSS, WELCA, Seminary students are studying for their finals, congregational call committees are still interviewing pastoral candidates, we continue to pray and support our global companions in Malawi, and together we are still sharing the good news so that the next generation will come to know and love Jesus. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in ministry even in these difficult times.

The Gospel reading for the second Sunday of EASTER is from John 20. Today I'll be just looking at the first two verses...don't worry about Thomas this year...hear the again

John 20:19-20 19) When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20) After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Can you picture in your mind that scene? 10 disciples in a house, Judas has died and Thomas is MIA the door is locked and there's Peter, James, John, Phillip, Bartholomew, Thaddeus, Matthew, Simon, James, Mary, Salome, Mary Magdalene, and the other women...

The disciples have been on an **emotional roller coaster**. A week ago they were having a parade celebrating Jesus as the son of David as he rode a donkey into Jerusalem. A couple of days later they are all together in the upper room celebrating the Passover when Jesus broke the bread and said "this is my body." And before they knew what had happened Jesus had been condemned to death, hung a cross and died between two criminals. That was Friday at 3:00 pm when the sky turned black, Jesus said it was finished and breathed his last. Talk about a roller coaster ride. That was only Friday and now today, we read in John's gospel that it's Sunday night and the reality of Jesus' death is setting in. Some of the disciples remembered vaguely something about him saying something would happen after three days...so it's Sunday night and the disciples are

sitting on the floor, **waiting**; leaning against a wall, **waiting**; talking, replaying the events of the last 72 hours, mulling over in their minds what had happened and **waiting**. They didn't believe Mary's tale about seeing Jesus Sunday morning in the garden. Peter and the other disciple told again how they found the grave empty and the grave clothes folded. But they couldn't wrap their heads around what it meant. Can you imagine what the room looked like behind that locked door...10 emotionally exhausted men, and women crying, grieving. But they were all just **waiting**... WAITING....

Like we all are. Waiting for this COVID 19 nightmare to be over...waiting impatiently...waiting fearfully....waiting hopefully....just waiting

(Continued...)

Dr. Seuss, one of my favorite theologians writes a great poem about waiting...

In one of his last books, OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO is a poem called the Waiting PLACE. Are any of you familiar with it? I'll read a bit of it...

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!
You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes
You can steer yourself
Any direction you choose.
You're on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.

You can get so confused
that you'll start in to race
down long wiggled roads at a break-necking pace
and grind on for miles cross weirdish wild space,
headed, I fear, toward a most useless place.

The Waiting Place...
...for people just waiting.
Waiting for a train to go
or a bus to come, or a plane to go
or the mail to come, or the rain to go
or the phone to ring, or the snow to snow
or the waiting around for a Yes or No
or waiting for their hair to grow.

Everyone is just waiting.
Waiting for the fish to bite
or waiting for the wind to fly a kite
or waiting around for Friday night
or waiting, perhaps, for their Uncle Jake
or a pot to boil, or a Better Break

or a string of pearls, or a pair of pants
or a wig with curls, **or Another Chance.**

Everyone is just waiting.

Dr. Seuss tells us that The Waiting Place is a useless place. But we already know that.

(Continued...)

Waiting can be horrible, like waiting to get the results back from a test for cancer. Waiting on pins and needles. This is not the happy anticipatory waiting of Advent or the waiting for a baby to be born.

DEAR FRIENDS. WE are all stuck in an unpleasant holding pattern, we are all waiting for things to go back to normal, so we can go back to what we know how to do.

THE WAITING PLACE, a useless place. The disciples must surely have felt stuck, paralyzed by fear, behind locked doors, grief stricken, and completely and totally unprepared to continue Jesus' ministry. In the next chapter of John's gospel we read that Peter is uncertain what to do next he goes back to doing the only thing he knows how to do, FISH. HE's a Fisherman. Jesus has called him to fish for people. Jesus called him to build his church. Jesus called him to proclaim the good news of God's reign. Peter went back to what he knew how to do.

And so a locked room full of sad people waited, and not knowing what to do they waited until... Jesus just shows up.

When have you been at your lowest point? Sad, grieving, discouraged, frustrated, angry, disappointed? How did you experience God's presence in those days? How did Jesus show up?

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Again imagine the scene, words can't convey the reaction, the emotional roller coaster reaches the height, Jesus came and stood among them and said, PEACE, he showed them his wounds from the nails and sword, and the disciples rejoiced. Rejoiced! Rejoice! I bet it was as loud as the high school gym when the basketball team won the section final. I imagine laughing and shouting, jumping around and fist pumping, hugging and kissing, and high fives. I imagine tears of joy. Not dead! Not dead! Alive!

Then when the noise settled down, Jesus said again...peace be with you... he breathed on them the Holy Spirit and said...as God has sent me, so you are now being sent to continue the work that I've begun with you. So I send you. The waiting is over. Jesus is telling them what to do next. They are being sent out of the locked room and into the world to do the very thing that got Jesus killed. They are terrified of the Jewish leaders who had Jesus killed because he had the nerve to heal people and forgive their sins. Now Jesus is sending them out with specific instructions to forgive sin. He is sending them out to be martyrs. All of a sudden, waiting doesn't seem like such a bad thing to do. Staying home and waiting, not so bad when we hear about the folks who get so sick and end up in the intensive care.

Have you ever been on a roller coaster? If you have you'll remember that it climbs slowly up to the top of high point and then seems to pause for a moment or two and you wait for what's coming next...you wait for the roller coaster to plunge down at breakneck speed. Here we are. It's Easter. Jesus is alive. He has risen from the grave and we are on pause...waiting...

Here's the deal. We are sent out to share the good news of Jesus but we are locked up in our own homes for fear of getting sick or making others sick. What does it mean to be SENT today?

As Easter people we are called by God and sent out into the world to share the good news of the resurrection and the transforming power of God love that raises the dead and give us all new life in Christ.

The amazing opportunity for us all is for us in the season of COVID 19 is to figure out what it means to live a Christian life when we are at home.

(Continued...)

This is a health crisis but it is also an opportunity to learn new ways to be church together, new ways to share the good news about Jesus.

Here is the opportunity to use Technology, social media, video conference, the old fashioned telephone or paper letter in the mailbox at the end of driveway...to share the good news that Jesus has risen from the dead.

Be curious to what Jesus is saying to us today.

Pay attention to where Jesus is showing up

So get on the rollercoaster and hang on. Following Jesus will be different now.

Just as Jesus unlocked the door to the room and shows up during the disciples darkest moment

Jesus shows up during a covid 19 pandemic...

Jesus unlocks our hearts to love

Jesus unlocks our imaginations

Jesus unlocks our minds

Jesus gives us courage and sends us out in new creative ways, for the sake of the world.

Our Gospel reading ends with the answer to the WHY question. Why is this story so important that you and I are sent out to share it with those who can't wait to hear it?

John 20:31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

AMEN



Step back! There's a HUGE splash!

Splashes of Joy!



Jolene Nowak's recent PET SCAN showed she is cancer FREE and in REMISSION! Praise God, and thanks for your prayers! We rejoice with her and her family!!



A Few Brief Announcements

We rejoice to see that you are using the Offering Envelope Drop Box. Many thanks to Rick Mueller who got that put in place for us! Offerings have come in as follows:

Palm Sunday: \$1815

Holy Week (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter) \$579.00

Many thanks to those who have put forth the effort to bring their tithes and offerings despite the fact that we are unable to meet together for worship. We pray for the financial needs of ALL during these unusual times affecting the employment/salaries of many.



A sign-up sheet for **volunteer lawn mowing** of the church and parsonage grass is posted by the Offering Drop Box inside the northeast entrance. Despite our return visit of winter weather, the lawns will be begging for attention soon. Please sign up...

BIDS for mowing and trimming the cemetery should be in to Ron Runge by May 8th. Please set aside time to help with this important summer ministry



EASTER

151

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

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!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4; tr.
 Lyra Davidica, London, 1708, sts. 1-3
 Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 77 77 and alleluias

The Day of Resurrection

(sing to the tune of "Lead On, O King Eternal" LBW #495)

The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
The passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
From sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over
With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light,
And list'ning to his accents,
May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All Hail!" and hearing,
May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful,
Let earth its song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph
And all that is there-in.
Let all things, seen and unseen,
Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen,
Our joy that has no end!

Then praise we God the Father,
And praise we Christ his Son,
With them the Holy Spirit,
Eternal Three in One;
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
And honor, pow'r, and glory
Ascribe to God alone!

(public domain)

EASTER

145

Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; End - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of life; Life is nought with-

vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his Church with glad - ness
 out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con-qu'rors,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 Hymns of tri - umph sing, For the Lord now liv - eth;
 Through thy death - less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

Where thy bod - y lay.
 Death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
 To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won!