

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

April 21st – 26th, 2025

Mon Matthew 28:1-10 Jesus has risen even before the women arrive at the tomb. The angel rolls away the stone to allow them to come and see the empty tomb! As they hurry away, Jesus meets them, risen indeed!

Tues 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 The significance of Christ's resurrection for us is seen in His representing the children of Adam. "As in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive" (v22). Death is doomed

Wed Job 19:22-27 Job's friends have not helped him with their accusations, but he looks to his living Redeemer, who will bring him into the presence of God, whom he will see with his very own eyes.

Thurs Isaiah 25:1-8 Isaiah sings of the Lord's triumph over all enemies, even death itself (v8)! The result is described as a wondrous banquet on the mountain, when tears will be wiped away from every face.

Fri John 20:11-18 Jesus' body is not in the tomb, but He is not running away. He comes to Mary Magdalene, calls her by name (cp10:2-3), and sends her to His brothers with triumphant words of comfort!

Sat 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 Some who object to a resurrection of the dead point to the decrepit bodies we lay in the grave. But that body is like a seed and when it is raised again it will be a glorious imperishable body!

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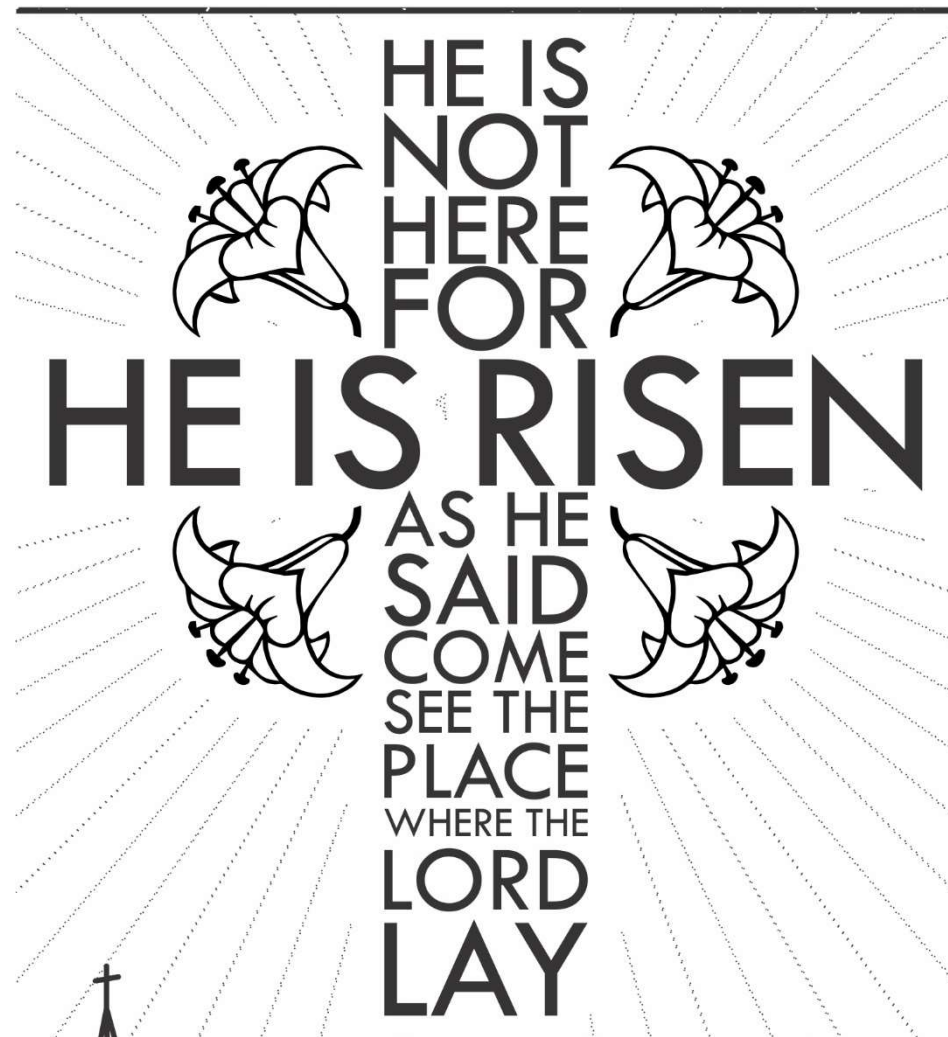
✠ 12 ✠

Easter

April 20th, 2025

Liturgy: Song Service

Organist: Lana Strike



ST. JOHN'S

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✠ Order of Service ✠



Soloist

“Christ is Arisen”

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

P Remember how He spoke to you, saying, “The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.”

Luke 24:6-7

C Our Savior is risen!

P He is risen indeed, just as He said.

C Hallelujah!

P May our risen Lord be with you always!

C The risen Lord be with you as well!

Response

Tune of TLH #270

C ♪ *Oh, what joy and heartfelt comfort:
Christ has risen from the grave!
Sin and death are now defeated;
He is living; He can save!*

*All who trust the Gospel message
Shall in glory rise again,
Then with Christ to live forever,
Free from death and free from sin. Amen.*

✠ Opening Prayer ✠

First Lesson

At the Empty Tomb

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as

ushering out after church; dates for VBS / Sunday School picnic; School Board to call VBS teachers; Delegates for Spring Delegate Conference (June 7 in Mankato); Summer worship schedule; Budget Committee Meeting date; July Quarterly Meeting date. Please give any additional Agenda items to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

Mission Helper Trip Fund – If you are able and willing to contribute funds to help offset the costs for Larry Boernsen to travel to Nepal this summer as part of the 2025 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal, you are invited to do so by contributing to our **Mission Helper Trip Fund**, by marking donations as such on your offering envelope. (Using blanks on the left side.)

CLC Call News – Principal Brandan Heinze has **returned** his call to Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN. <> Teacher Amy Mielke of Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI, has **returned** the call to Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac WI. <> Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA. <> Missionary Peter Evensen of Togo, West Africa, has **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

A blessed Easter to you all!

He is risen!

Ushers	4/20	Kendall B, Larry B.
	4/27	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	5/4	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning	The Boernsens (wk. 3)	
	Up Next – Lueck, Liepold	

Charles Romberg Funeral Details – The viewing will take place on Monday, April 21st, at Grace Lutheran Church (Sleepy Eye, MN) from 4:00 P.M. till 7:00 P.M. The committal service will take place Tuesday morning, April 22nd, at 9:00 A.M. out at Home Cemetery (602 St Marys St. NE, Sleepy Eye, MN). Both the visitation and the service will take place that same morning at Grace Lutheran Church. The Visitation will be at 10:00 A.M., and the Service at 11:00 A.M with a meal to follow.

Kindergarten Roundup – Parents and children are welcome to join us for fun, educational activities at Kindergarten Round Up on Wednesday, April 23, from 8:30-10:30 am. Please contact the teachers or school at 507-853-4550 by April 21 to register.

Spring Musical Help – In preparation for the Spring Musical, our teachers are requesting your help with the set, props, and costumes. If you are able and willing to help, please speak with Ruth or Lana. Any help at all is greatly appreciated!

Joint Baby Shower – The women of the congregation are invited to a joint diapers/wipes baby shower for Jess Rodebaugh and Emily Mueller. The shower will be held in the fellowship hall downstairs, following church service on April 27th. Please RSVP by signing up on the sheet in the entryway.

Voters' Meeting – The Voters of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our April Quarterly meeting April 27th in the auditorium. So as not to interfere with the joint baby shower being held in the fellowship hall at the same time, we will not have our usual potluck meal. Instead, chili is being planned and will be available in the auditorium.

Besides regular Board reports, Agenda items will include: membership items: request from Todd Rosen to be a St. John's voting member; transfer of Jim, Kris and James Sullivan from Messiah, Eau Claire, to St. John's; request for release from Jennifer Dukleth; discussions about: getting Pastor a debit card, moving the communion railing, not

snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. Very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away; for it was very large. Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

Then they (the other women) went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you. He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" And they remembered His words. So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

Hymn: TLH #200:1,2,7,8 *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"*

Resurrection Proclamation *1 Corinthians 15; John 20*

P "Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. . . But if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty"

C "and our faith is also empty."

P "For if the dead do not rise,"

C "then Christ is not risen."

P "And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile;"

C "We are still in our sins!"

P "But now Christ is risen from the dead,"

C "and has become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep."

P "For as in Adam all die,"

C "even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

P Peace to you! Receive the Holy Spirit. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed.

C **Glory be to You, My Lord and My God!**

P He is risen!

C **He is risen indeed!**

Hymn: TLH #199 *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!"*

Second Lesson *In the Garden*

Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying

Response: TLH #189 *"He is Arisen! Glorious Word!"*

P Christ is arisen!

C ♪ **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 direst weapon.

Oh, hear What cheer!

Christ victorious Riseth glorious,

Life He giveth—

He was dead, but see, He liveth!

✠ **The Offering of Thankful Hearts** ✠

Choir *"Alleluia! Christ Has Destroyed Death"*

Hymn: TLH #210 *"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done"*

✠ **Easter Prayer and the Lord's Prayer** ✠

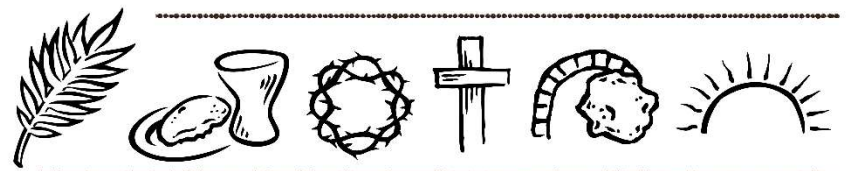
The Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C ♪ **Amen, amen, a – men.**

Hymn: WS #732 *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*



Holy Week

said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send 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 retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Hymn: WS #736

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"



Matthew 28:5-7

The angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷ "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead." Thus far the holy Word.

Good Advice from the Easter Angel

- I. "Don't be afraid."
- II. "Look at the evidence."
- III. "Go forth with the message."

there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

Hymn: TLH #198 *"He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord"*

Third Lesson

On the Road to Emmaus

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" He asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to

Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Confession of Faith

- P** Our Lord bore our sins in His body on the tree;
- C** **But now He is risen from the grave!**
- P** But what does this mean?
- C** **It means that Jesus Christ is the very Son of God, for it is written:**
"His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. . . was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power. . . by the resurrection from the dead." *Romans 1:3-4*
- P** Yes, but what certainty does the resurrection of Jesus give us?
- C** **It makes us certain that our sins are forgiven, as the Apostle Paul writes that Jesus "was delivered up because of our offenses, and raised because of our justification."** *Romans 4:25*
- P** Should we be afraid of death?
- C** **No, for Jesus will raise us up from the dead, just as it is written:**
"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. . . For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming." *1 Corinthians 5:20, 22-23*
- P** We confess together with Job:
- C** **"Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book! That they were engraved on a rock with an iron pen and lead, forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart years within me!"** *Job 19:23-27*

Hymn: TLH #201:1,4,5

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

Fourth Lesson

Behind Closed Doors

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He