

ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 5, 2026
EASTER SUNDAY TRADITIONAL
9:00AM

*“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!***

***Easter Welcome**

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

P: We heard His words, "*it is finished!*" Today, we see the proof that our sins have been paid for and death has been conquered. On this most joyous of days, let us raise our voices to our risen and living Savior! Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

***Processional Hymn** *Jesus Christ Has Risen Today* **ELW 365**

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

*Aspergillum is a liturgical implement used to sprinkle water.
We do this to remember the gift of Holy Baptism.*

***Song**

Thine is the Glory

ELW 376

***Prayer of the Day**

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

***Special Music**

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Sanctuary Choir

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

²Let Israel | now declare,

“God’s mercy en- | dures forever.”

¹⁴The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:
“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation.**

²²The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

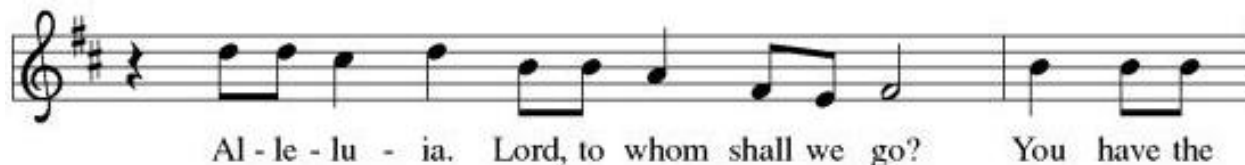
Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

¹ If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)**



***Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated

Children's Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

***Hymn**

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

ELW 377

***Apostles Creed**

pg 105

***Prayers of Intercession**

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer

***Peace** (*Feel free to share a handshake or hug*)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering *Please consider giving an offering for the mission and ministry at St. Olaf. We can continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with your support and generosity. God bless you!*

***Offering Prayer**

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Holy Communion Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

Communion Hymns *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing*
 I Am the Bread of Life
 Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 385

ELW 485

ELW 471

***Prayer After Communion**

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

***Blessing**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***Hymn**

Now All the vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Tulips were donated by: Mitch Craigmile, Vera Hartman in memory of Howard Hartman, Jim and Mindy McColley, Mike and Jolynn Sunken, Jensen family in memory of Barb Jensen, Lynda Mumm in memory of Lyle Mumm, Dennis Gross, Linda Cartee in memory of Bud Cartee, Linda Cartee in memory of family, Marlene Kalvig in memory of family, Shirley Hardcastle in memory of Jack Hardcastle.

Hydrangeas were donated by: Dennis Gross, Eileen Carroll in memory of Bill Achenbach, Marlene Kalvig in memory of family, Holly VanHeel in memory of Bob and Lucile Gunsallus.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Assisting in Worship

Presider: Pastor Jim McColley
Preaching: Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez
Organist: Jason Swedlund
Crucifer: Joseph Alvarez III
Reader: Lynda Mumm
Special Musicians: Paul Bloomquist,
Nicholas Moore, Amanda Warren

Usher: Randy Puls, Vera Hartman, Eileen
Carroll, Doug Kinseth
Communion: Vera Hartman, Viv Nore
Communion setup: Tammy O, Pam B
Acolyte: Hadley McKinney, Izzy
Stickrod, Rachel Horrell
Sound: Marc Oester

A special thank you to Kim Peimann for making the communion bread.