

Easter Sunday Resurrection of Our Lord March 31, 2024



900 Washington Crossing Road Newtown PA 18940 215-497-0447 ascensionlutheranchurch.org

WELCOME TO ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome!

Whether this is your first time worshiping with us or this has been your faith community for many years, we welcome you to worship.

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever.

With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

A few notes on how we worship together:

During the Prayers of People, you are welcome to voice your prayers out loud or you may fill out the yellow prayer sheet found in your bulletin. The yellow prayer sheets will be collected by the usher after the sermon. Prayer requests will be voiced by the Pastor and added to the weekly prayer list circulated by email.

We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We believe that the living Christ is present in Holy Communion and that this meal offers forgiveness and new life. We welcome all who seek these gifts.

Today we celebrate with Andrew Pagan and Aubrey Pagan who will make their first communion.

Cover Image

Jyoti Sahi (Indian, 1944–), Resurrection, 2007. Oil on canvas, 178 x 122 cm. Retrieved from https://jyotiartashram.blogspot.com/

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

VICTIMAE PASCHALI LAUDES (ANTIPHON FOR EASTER SUNDAY) Cantor: Peter de Mets

Christians, to the paschal victim offer your thankful praises— a lamb the sheep redeeming, Christ, who only is sinless, reconciling sinners to the Father. Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous; the prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.

Speak, Mary, declaring what you saw when wayfaring. "The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus' resurrection; bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting. My Lord, my hope, is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you."

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining. Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning! Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

P Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

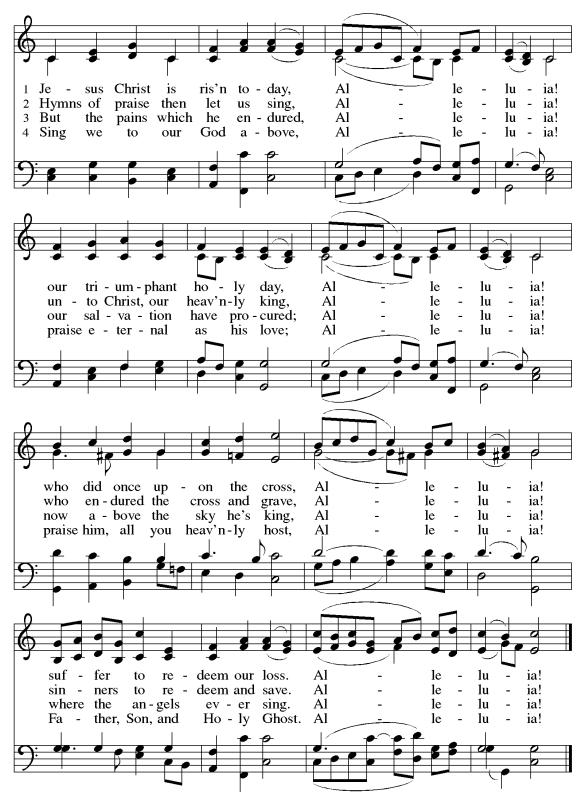
THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All children are invited to join our Pastor at the baptismal font.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C Amen.
- P In baptism, we are always connected to Jesus.
 Through baptism, we have God's mercy and love no matter what,
 And the Holy Spirit is with us wherever we go.
 Let's give thanks for baptism!

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of water, And above all the gift of being your children forever. Shower us with your Spirit, And refresh us with your forgiveness, grace, and love. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN | JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY



Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

GREETING

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE | THIS IS THE FEAST



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING | ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 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. 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; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 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. 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM | PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 prayed responsively

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare,

"God's mercy endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my song,

and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

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

The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

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

"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

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

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

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

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

SECOND READING | 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

- R The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH



Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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GOSPEL | MARK 16:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had

been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 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. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rev. Kayla J. Hopgood

SERMON Rev. Kayla J. Hopgood

HYMN OF THE DAY | THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

An usher will collect prayer requests during the hymn of the day



Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

NICENE CREED

- P Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AM God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- L The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

<u>MEAL</u>

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

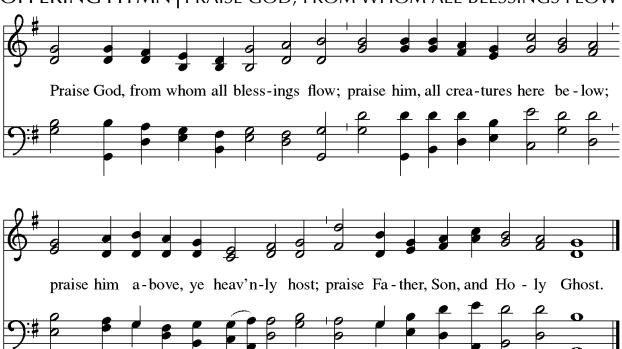
ANTHEM | THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

Matthew Machemer

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A brass plate will be passed during the offertory for your tithes and offerings. You may also give online by visiting ascensionlutheranchurch.org/give. Thank you for your gifts.

OFFERING HYMN | PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OFFERING PRAYER

AM Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C Amen.

DIALOGUE

- 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.

PREFACE

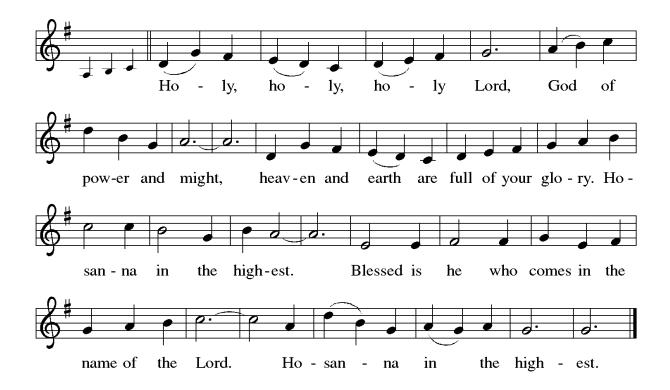
The adults question, asking:

Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

The youth, led by our First Communicants, Aubrey and Andrew Pagan reply, answering:

Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. You give us friends and families busy streets for young and old, the life of an earthly city fulfilled in your city to come. You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P We thank you, loving God, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life on the cross and opened his arms to all.

The adults question, asking:

Why do we share this bread and wine?

The youth, led by our First Communicants, Aubrey and Andrew Pagan reply, answering:

Listen, and we will hear.

P On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen,

Jesus took bread.

He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'Take and eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This cup is the new testament in my blood,
poured out for you and for all people,
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this to remember me.'

And so, O God, with this bread and this cup we celebrate Jesus's love, his death, his risen life, proclaiming triumphantly:



P As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit.
Fill us with your blessing and grace, Free us from our sins,
Form us to be your people.

The adults question, asking:

What does it mean to be God's people?

The youth, led by our First Communicants, Aubrey and Andrew Pagan reply, answering:

Listen, and we will hear.

Help us, O God, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Salome, and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, today and forever:



LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C 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.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

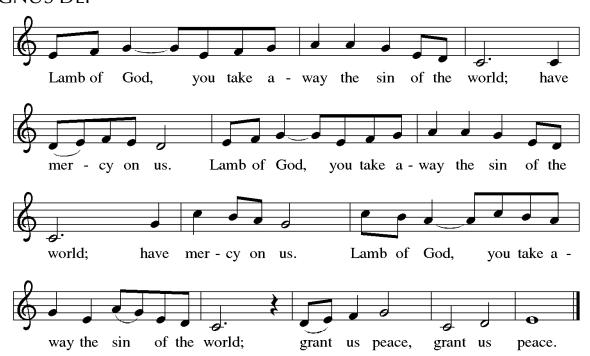
COMMUNION

The gifts of God belong to you, the people of God. We believe that the living Christ is present in Holy Communion and that this meal offers forgiveness and new life. We welcome all who seek these gifts.

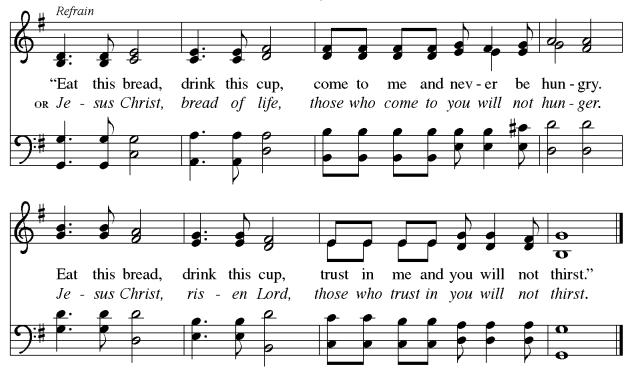
Communion is celebrated by intinction. Extend your open palms to receive the bread, then dip the bread into either the red wine or white grape juice in the divided chalice. If you desire gluten-free bread, please tell the pastor. If you require Holy Communion brought to your seat, please inform an usher.

You may also come forward to the Table with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing from the pastor.

AGNUS DEL



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION | Eat this Bread (Taizé)



Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ P strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- Amen. C

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF LIFE & MINISTRY AT ALC

BLESSING

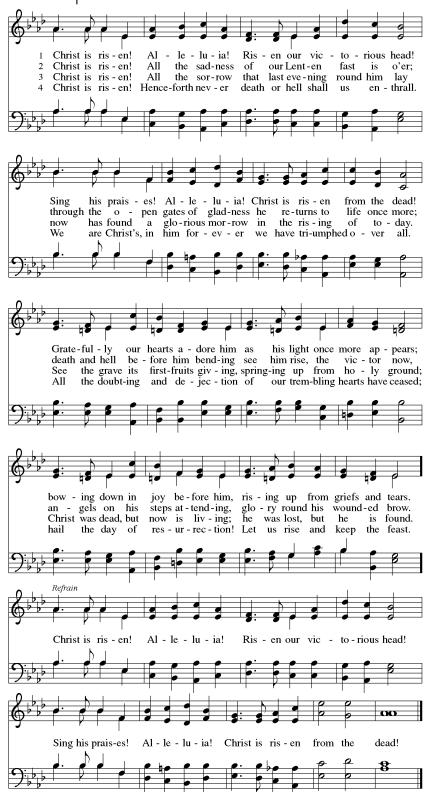
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope

→ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN | CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

DISMISSAL

AM Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

All are invited to linger for coffee and baked treats. If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guestbook near the front door of the church.

May the resurrected joy of Christ be with you this day and always.

Thank you to our volunteers:

Assisting Minister	Jillian Rauh
Communion Assistant	Declan Murphy
Communion Bread	Andrew and Aubrey
	Pagan
Reader	Doreen Bourbon
Passing the Peace	Jarrett Orth
Altar Service	Tony Eith
Usher	Lisa Murphy
Counters	Annie Chmielewski
	and Barbara Raabe
Greeters	Monica Shuster-Orth
	and Jarrett Orth
Fellowship	Lynn D'Esmond
Tech	John Carducci

To give online please scan the QR Code below.



FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR WERE DONATED BY:

Allison Adamousky In memory of Clark Shuster and my

dear sweet warrior, Oreo

Susan Baumgarten In honor of our Grandchildren

John Carducci For the Joy of Easter

David and Anne Chmielewski In loving memory of Clark and Janie

Shuster, Jerry Grady, Marian Ditmars, and Matthew Furman

To the glory of God

In honor of Kevin and Ingrid Fair

In honor of Tristen Graf

In thanksgiving for Women of

Ascension

In thanksgiving for hospital staff at

Capital Health

Tom and Lynn D'Esmond In memory of our parents, Velma

and Adrienne D'Esmond and Evelyn Herbert Berggren, and our son Joel

Knapp

Anthony Eith In memory of my son, Joshua Eith

and my parents

Maryjane Hagan In honor of my Grandchildren Patty Heinemann In honor of my mother, Edna

Froehlich

Rev. Kayla J. Hopgood In memory of Jane Hardy Peck

Judy McCall
Barbara Raabe
In memory of Homer McCall
In memory of Gerry Raabe

Beth and Mark Schultz In memory of Fred and Connie

Schultz

In memory of Ruth and Jack

Wenrich

In memory of Gail French In honor of our Mothers

Jim and Sheryl White

Connect with Us

The best way to stay informed of church activities is to subscribe to our Constant Contact email listsery. You will receive the weekly worship link, the bi-monthly newsletter, and occasional event reminders and updates. To sign up, visit ascensionlutheranchurch.org/contactus, or email the office at officealc900@gmail.com



Rev. Kayla J. Hopgood, *Pastor* | pastor.kayla.alc@gmail.com Peter de Mets, *Director of Music* pdm@peterdemetsmusic.com Ginny Kraft, *Church Administrator* | officealc900@gmail.com Beth Peroni, *Bookkeeper* | bookkeeperalc900@gmail.com

The Church Office is open Wednesdays from 9AM - 1PM and Thursdays from 12-4PM.
Pastor Kayla is available by appointment Tuesday through Thursday.

Learn more about our community at <u>ascensionlutheranchurch.org</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/AscensionLutheranNewtown</u> Instagram: AscensionLutheranNewtown