

Pastor: Holy God, this meal which we share today is a celebration of your love, which became known to us through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son – our beloved Lord. He graced lives with healing and hope, with compassion and power, and as if that weren't enough, he gave his very life for us. On the night of his betrayal, he sat at a table and broke bread with his friends, saying:

Congregation: “Take and eat. This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this and remember me.”

Pastor: After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said:

Congregation: “This is my blood poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this and remember me.”

Pastor: God of resurrection power, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us and upon the gifts of food and drink we offer in remembrance of you. May they be for us the life of Christ. After feasting, may we make Christ's life visible through our faithful witness to him. We pray, saying:

All: *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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.* (SHARE THE ELEMENTS)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All people: *This has been no ordinary meal. It has been one in which we have been fed and nourished with the life of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord. May we go from here, refreshed and eager, to share that life with others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia! Alleluia!

RED Hymnal, #174

BENEDICTION

Pastor: As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. And may the same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and forevermore. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

All People: *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

POSTLUDE

Resurrection Sunday – April 20, 2025

Service of Word and Sacrament

PRELUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen (Honore)

Chimes Choir

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: The Passing of the Peace is the oldest part of Christian worship and is a special way we welcome each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. You are invited to participate in this ancient ritual by offering one another a peace sign, a wave, a Namaste (nod and bow), or a handshake along with the words, “the peace of Christ be with you,” and a return response, “and also with you.” For those gathered across the miles and airwaves, you too, are invited to participate by posting in the online comment box.

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also, with you.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

All: *Alleluia! Alleluia! ALLELUIA! Living Lord, come into our gathering and startle us out of our fear, sorrow, and complacency. Shatter our misgivings and misunderstandings. YOU ARE RISEN! Open our eyes to see it and our mouths to proclaim it. Amen.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

RED Hymnal, #167

ACT OF CONFESSION (Based on 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 and Isaiah 65:17-25)

Pastor: Merciful God, we confess our sin and the sins of the world. We confess that we have lived lives more in step with the world,

Congregation: **than in the way of your son, Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: We have devoted our lives solely to *our* desires, *our* concerns, *our* manners, and *our* customs,

Congregation: **instead of examining ourselves and our ways in the holy light of the Risen Savior.**

Pastor: We cling to the values of a broken and sinful world, refusing to let go of toxic, rotting things,

Congregation: **instead of replacing them with all that is of higher worth and all that is good.**

Pastor: We are a people divided against ourselves, fully loyal to certain political ideologies and leaders,
Congregation: **instead of being firmly faithful to your Kingdom's goals and faithful works.**

Pastor: We pursue profit and pleasures that cause further harm and destruction to air, land, and water,
Congregation: **instead of finding creative ways to care for, protect, nurture, and restore all of life.**

Pastor: We have remained stubbornly committed to dying, fruitless causes that may be on life-support
Congregation: **instead of opening ourselves up to your resurrection power that can breathe new life into us.**

Pastor: We have failed to open our minds, imaginations, and hearts to the new things...
Congregation: **you want to birth in us and through us for others, for our communities, and for our world.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Congregation: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Set us free from the ways of the world and from death itself.**

Pastor: Empower us to serve you as mediators of your reconciling love in every corner of creation.
All people: ***We pray this in the name of the living Christ whose reign endures forever. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Acts 10:43 and Luke 24:1-12)

Pastor: Hear the Word of God: 'Everyone who believes in Jesus receives forgiveness of sins through his name.' In peace and in joy, know that you are indeed forgiven and freed to resurrect new ways of living and being in the world. No longer entombed - begin anew!

All people: ***Alleluia! Thanks be to God!***

HYMN OF PRAISE *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* **RED Hymnal, #166**

JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME" *Resurrecting our Alleluias*

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Halle, Halle, Halle* **BLUE Hymnal, #41**

EPISTLE READING **Acts 10:34-43**

GOSPEL READING **Luke 24:1-12**

SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER **Rev. Laura C. Baker**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Jesus Shall Reign* (Rogers) **Chimes Choir**

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: We are witnesses called to tell the story of the Holy Spirit's power and the Resurrected Christ. We now turn in thanksgiving to share the good news of forgiveness and grace to all the world, with the tithes and offerings of our time, talent, and financial resources. May our gifts be a living testimony to those who most need the healing grace of Christ this morning. Please stand as you are able to do so, comfortably and offer our gifts with a song and prayer.

OFFERING RESPONSE *Accept, O God, the Gifts* **Blue Chalice Hymnal, #379**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: ***Bountiful God, we come with our offerings in response to your love. With the promise of resurrection life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. With the energy the Spirit gives, we seek to inflame all your people with a zeal for your way. Receive the work we do, and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight and revive, restore and resurrect all who hunger and thirst for your holy presence and good news of life abundant, on this and every day. We pray in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus the Christ! Amen.***

ANTHEM *Alleluia!* (Hughes) **Chancel Choir**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: There was joy on that first day of the week, when Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, and later, on that same day, sat broke bread with two of his disciples. It was then that they recognized Christ was with them.

Congregation: **This is the joyful feast of Christ's disciples. From the east and the west, the north and the south, we gather to break bread with Christ and one another.**

Pastor: This is Christ's feast, and it is available to all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of his people.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Living God, on this most joyous day we offer our thanks and praise to you, Creator of heaven and earth; Creator and Lover of all humanity. Even when we turned away from you, you never rejected us. You spoke words of mercy and love through the prophets; promising that you would love us forever with an everlasting love. And so, we join our voices with all the company of heaven and earth singing:

ALL SING: *Sanctus* (Seraphic Hymn) **Red Hymnal, #522**