

April 19, 2020--Easter Service of Stories and Songs

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

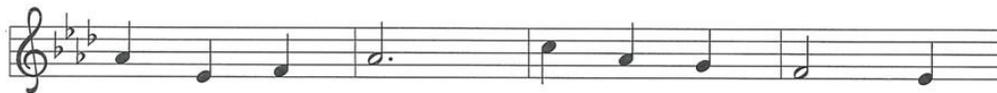
God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;

and although we have not seen Jesus, we believe in him.

Let us give thanks to God for Jesus, the one who is seen and unseen. Amen. Alleluia!

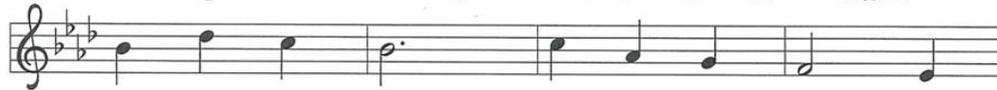
Gathering Song "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!" ELW #377 vs. 1 and 4



Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray...

Risen Lord Jesus, let us be baptized by your resurrection light. May we trust in you above all else, hope in you above all else, seek you in all things, find you in every place, meet you among all people, know you through everything, and love you beyond all telling. We pray in your name, living Lord. Amen.

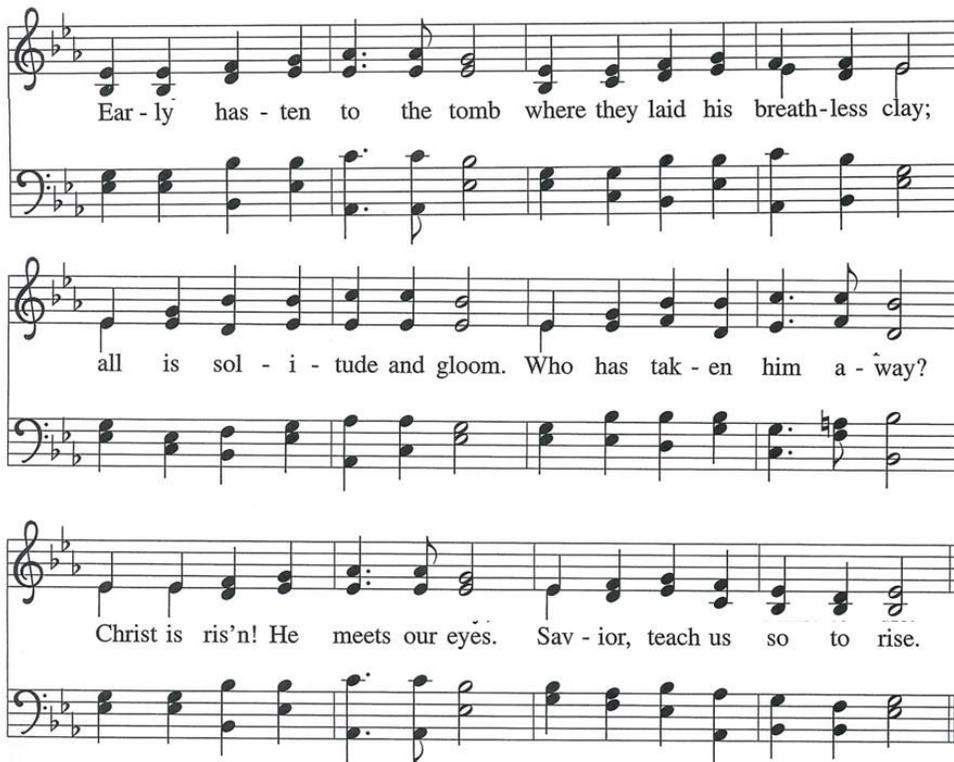
Children's sermon Amber Krafnick

The Appearances of Jesus

Introduction

First Reading: John 20:1-10: The Women Tell Their Tale

Song: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" ELW #347 vs. 4



Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;

all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Second Reading: John 20:11-18: Mary's Gardener

Song: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW #379 vs. 1 and 2



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain.



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain.



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Third Reading: John 20:19-23: Jesus Appears to the Disciples

Song: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW #379 vs. 3 and 4



3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Fourth Reading: John 20:24-29: "Doubting" Thomas

Song: "'Thine is the Glory" ELW #376 vs. 2 and 3

Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

greet 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,

hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Fifth Reading: John 21:1-14: Some Fish on a Beach

Song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" ELW #325 vs. 1

I want Je - sus to walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Responsive Prayer

Holy One, we celebrate that where people are gathered together in love:

You are present and good things happen and life is full.

We celebrate that we are immersed in your mystery our lives are more than they seem:

We belong to each other and to a universe of great creative energies, whose source and destiny is you, our God.

We celebrate that your spirit beat in the heart of Jesus of Nazareth:

The good news of your healing, embracing and liberating love was heard by the broken, the lonely and all bound by life's sorrows and struggles.

We celebrate that the spirit of peace and hope is present with us and through us:

In our struggle to love we incarnate your holy presence in our world.

And so, aware of the hurts and longings all of us carry, the awe and wonder that is around us, and the gifts of faith and this community of faith:

We pause and we become ever aware of the sacredness of our lives.

In that awareness may we act and speak and live. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Sixth Reading: Matthew 28:16-20: Jesus gives his Disciples "Marching Orders"

Seventh Reading: Acts 1:6-10: Jesus Leaves, and the Church is Born

Sending Song "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" ELW #365 vs. 1 and 4

Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, 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!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The music is in a major key and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The lyrics are: "Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia! Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia! our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, 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! praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia! suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia! Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!"

Benediction/Dismissal

Go forth with renewed hope, **Trusting in the transforming love of God.**

God does not leave things as they are; **With God, all things are made new.**

All creation responds to God's presence; **The world is alive with possibility.**

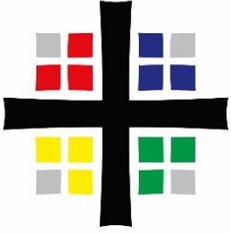
We open ourselves to this truth; **With Christ, we trust our whole lives to this power.**

Nothing is beyond the reach of God; **Neither evil, nor hardship, nor death.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude



FIRST LUTHERAN ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2020

It is unknown at this time if some of the events scheduled in the upcoming weeks will occur. We will do our best to keep you advised. Be sure to call the church with any questions at 739-3348 or email to office@flcff.org.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Neil and Madeline Herman with thanks to the church staff and council for the early decisions made during this time of so many unknowns.

COVID 19 Update - In accordance with the decision of the MN State Governor, the church will remain locked from March 27 – May 3. We will not be able to accommodate public meetings during this time. If you have a pastoral care emergency, you can contact Pastor Gretchen at 218-321-0995. Please continue to call (leave a message) and email with questions or concerns. Phone: 218-739-3348, Email: office@flcff.org, or check our website firstlutheranchurchff.org for further updates. The ELCA churches of Fergus Falls have joined together to provide worship opportunities on Sunday mornings. All worship services are closed to the public, but will be live-streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJK AM 1020 or Channel 977 FM97.7 at 9:30 am. The building is closed to the public, but the church office will be staffed from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday as we are able.

We appreciate your on-going support of the ministry of First Lutheran Church. Your gifts may be mailed to the church at 402 South Court Street, or you can visit the website firstlutheranchurchff.org and click donate on the upper right corner and set up your donation plan. Any questions, please call the office 739-3348.

Radio Broadcasts are available for sponsorship. Cost: \$100.00. If you would like to cover a broadcast, please call the office at 739-3348 to check on availability. Your support of this ministry is more important than ever, and is greatly appreciated.

Urgent Request: In response to the shortage of personal protective equipment to protect residents and staff from infection, PioneerCare needs 300 home-sewn masks as soon as possible. Completed masks in sets of 25 or more may be packaged and dropped off in PioneerCare Center's front vestibule. For questions, or to request a pattern, please contact Steve Guttormson at 218-770-7274 or email steveg@pioneercare.org. We have also left copies of the pattern in the outdoor Little Lending Library.

Many thanks for those who sent donations to cover needs at the Salvation Army. There is an on-going need, so if you are able to help, you can still send your check to the church (payable to First Lutheran) with Salvation Army marked in the memo line. We will make sure it gets to the Salvation Army to help these people in need. Thank you.

Red Cross Blood Drive at First Lutheran Church has been **cancelled**. Their needs are down significantly with postponement of elective surgeries and less accidents. Since the supply only keeps for a certain amount of time, they are cancelling some drives to better align with their current needs.

Breathing Under Water, a Spirituality and Twelve Step Bible Study based on the book by Richard Rohr is being postponed until further notice.

Christ in Our Home devotional books for April-May-June are in our Outdoor Little Lending Library.

LutherCrest has cancelled all of their on-site camps for the summer.

VBS Day Camp with Luther Crest "Go Make Disciples" July 6-9 at Hope Lutheran Church is suspended at this time. Watch for further information.

VBS Butterflies "Noah's Ark" July 6-9 at First Lutheran Church for ages birth through 5 years old is still being planned at this time. Watch for further information.