

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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The Easter Vigil

7 p.m. Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024

Warm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

The Easter Vigil is the most important liturgy of the church year. In a magnificent way the Church expresses liturgically the meaning of her Lord's Pasch, his Passover. Our Lord's passage from death to life is the fulfillment of Israel's passage from bondage to freedom. The Vigil is also the celebration of our own passage through the waters of Holy Baptism. Finally, the Eucharist is a testimony to the coming greater celebration of life at the Messianic Banquet before the throne of God.

The Vigil liturgy consists of four parts: The Service of Light, The Service of Readings, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, and the First Eucharist of the Resurrection:

The Service of Light

At the start of the liturgy, we gather around the front steps of the church, weather permitting. Here the paschal candle will be lighted and we will follow the candle into the darkened church for the Service of Bible readings. As the paschal candle is carried in solemn procession, so Christ leads us out of the slavery of sin into the freedom of the children of God. Joy in Christ, as the light, the life, and the freedom of redeemed humanity, bursts forth in the great Easter Proclamation.

The Service of Readings

In our near-dark church, we hear a series of readings recounting God's mighty acts on behalf of his people from the beginning of creation. This includes the sweep of salvation

history, recalling the redemption of a world spoiled by the fall of humanity. Between the readings, various canticles and prayers enhance our meditation.

Holy Baptism

In the ancient Church, this liturgy was the supreme moment for the Baptism of new converts into the Church. It marked the culmination of their studies, repentance, fasting, and prayer for their new life in the Church. We have no Baptisms for this evening, but we do mean to renew our own Baptisms.

The First Eucharist of the Resurrection

The Service comes to its climax with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The church bells, which have been silent since Thursday, peal out the joyous news of the Resurrection, and we stand to sing “Gloria in Excelsis” and celebrate the Holy Meal made ours through Christ’s death and resurrection. No other Eucharist of the Church year is more significant than this first Easter Eucharist, for it is the solemn anniversary celebration of Christ’s Passover from death to resurrection.

We are honored and delighted that you are here and hope that you will return. If you do not already have a church home in our city, please consider joining this congregation. We would rejoice to have you. Just send me an email (gpfryer@gmail.com) or speak with Pastor Carol Fryer (caefryer@gmail.com) or with Pastor Lara Bhasin (lara.bhasin@tsm.edu).

In Christ,



Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

The Service of Light

THE BLESSING OF THE FIRE

☞ Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members dispersed throughout the world to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

☞ The Lord be with you.

☛ **And also with you.**

☞ Let us pray: Father, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light. Bless ✠ this new fire, and grant that in this paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PASCHAL CANDLE

A great candle, the paschal candle, is prepared by tracing on it the Sign of the Cross, the letters Alpha and Omega, and the numerals of the year. The minister says:

- P** Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him, and all the ages. To him be glory and dominion, forever and ever.
C Amen.

Five incense studs, representing the five wounds of Christ are now inserted into the candle in the form of a cross as the minister says:

- P** By his wounds holy, by his wounds glorious, may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us.
C Amen.

The minister now lights the candle from the fire.

- P** The light of Christ, who rises this night in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.
- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** Bless † we pray, O God, this lighted candle and those upon whom it may shine, that all who this night shall be partakers of your Holy Mysteries may be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction; that as we were once darkness but are now light in the Lord, we may walk as children of light; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen

PROCESSION TO THE FONT

The procession forms and moves into the church, where we gather around the Baptismal Font. The order of procession is: Deacon with paschal candle, ministers, and people. Two times the Deacon will stop and intone, the people imitating the Deacon's intonation:

A The light of Christ. **C** Thanks be to God.

Having arrived before the altar, the Deacon turns to face the congregation, and, when all have reached their places, lifts the candle high and sings a third time:

- D** The Light of Christ.
C Thanks be to God!

The people gather around the font and light their candles, with light from the paschal candle spreading out over the congregation, passing from neighbor to neighbor. Try to not tip lighted candles. All hold the candles throughout the Easter Proclamation. The people remain standing.

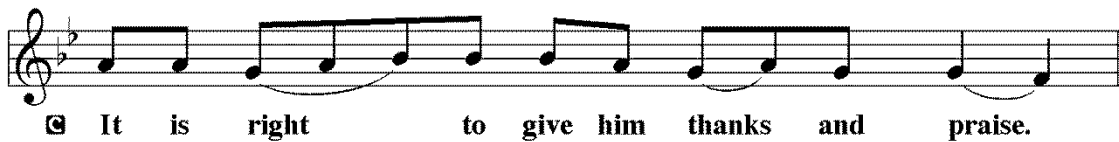
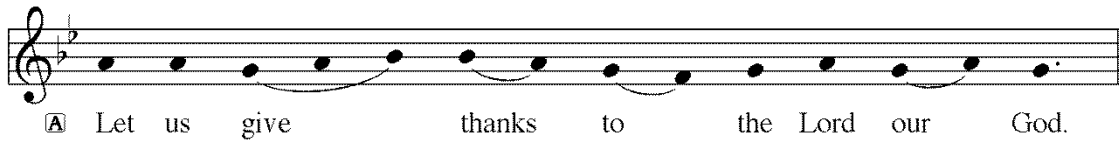
The Easter Proclamation

Rejoice, now, all heavenly choirs of angels,
and celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;
and, for the victory of so great a King,
sound the trumpet of salvation.

Exult, also, O earth, enlightened with such radiance;
and, made brilliant by the splendor of the eternal King,
know that the ancient darkness has been banished from all the world.

Be glad also, O mother Church, clothed with the brightness of such a light,
and let this house resound with the triumphant voices of the peoples.

Wherefore, dearly beloved, who stand in the clarity of this bright and holy light,
join with me, I ask you, in praising the lovingkindness of almighty God;
through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and rules with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.



It is indeed right and salutary
that we should with full devotion of heart and mind and voice
praise the invisible God, the Father Almighty,
and his only Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ;

who paid for us the debt of Adam to the eternal Father,
and who by his precious blood
redeemed us from the bondage to the ancient sin.

For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain,
by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the night in which, in ancient times,
you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel, from the land of Egypt;
and led them, dry-shod, through the Red Sea.

This, indeed, is the night in which the darkness of sin

has been purged away by the rising brightness.
 This is the night in which all who believe in Christ
 are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin,
 are renewed in grace, and are restored to holiness.
 This is the night in which, breaking the chains of death,
 Christ arises from hell in triumph.
 For it would have profited us nothing to be born
 had we not also been redeemed.
 Oh, how wonderful the condescension of your lovingkindness!
 Oh, how inestimable the goodness of your love,
 that to redeem a slave you delivered up your Son!
 O necessary sin of Adam that is wiped away by the death of Christ!
 O happy fault that was worthy to have so great a Redeemer!
 O night truly blessed which alone was worthy
 to know the time and the hour wherein Christ arose again from hell!
 This is the night of which it is written:
 "and the night is as clear as the day";
 and, "then shall my night be turned into day."
 The holiness of this night puts to flight the deeds of wickedness;
 washes away sin; restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn;
 casts out hate; brings peace; and humbles earthly pride.
 Therefore, in this night of grace, receive, O holy Father,
 this evening sacrifice of praise;
 which the Church lays before you in the solemn offering of the candle.
 We sing the glories of this pillar of fire,
 the brightness of which is not diminished,
 even when its light is divided and borrowed.
 For it is fed by the melting wax which the bees, your servants,
 have made for the substance of this candle.
 O night truly blessed in which heaven and earth are joined--
 things human and things divine.
 We, therefore, pray to you, O Lord,
 that this candle, burning to the honor of your name,
 will continue to vanquish the darkness of this night
 and be mingled with the lights of heaven.
 May he who is the morning star find it burning--
 that morning star which never sets,
 that morning star which, rising again from the grave,
 faithfully sheds light on all the human race.
 And we pray, O Lord, rule, govern,
 and preserve with your continual protection your whole Church,

giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing;
through the same Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Then the people go to their pews, extinguish their candles, and sit for the Service of Readings.

The Service of Readings

☐ Dear friends in Christ: we have begun our solemn Vigil. Let us now listen attentively to the Word of God, recalling how he saved his people throughout history, and in the fullness of time, sent his own Son to be our Redeemer. Through this Easter celebration may God bring to perfection the saving work he has begun in us.

FIRST LESSON..... Genesis 1:1--2:3, RSV
Silence for reflection.

PSALM 100 *Jubilate Domino* ST. ANNE tone, *St. Martin's Psalter*



Cantor ¹ Be joyful in the LORD, | all you lands;*
serve the LORD with gladness and
come before his presence | with a song.

All ² **Know this: The LORD him- | self is God;*
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep | of his pasture.**

Cantor ³ Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his | courts with praise;*
give thanks to him and call up- | on his name.

All ⁴ **For the LORD is good; his mercy is | everlasting;*
and his faithfulness endures from | age to age.**

☐ Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of him who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen**

SECOND LESSON.....Genesis 22:1-18, RSV
Silence for reflection.

☐ Let us pray. God and Father of all the faithful, you promised Abraham that he would become the father of all nations, and through this paschal mystery you increase your chosen people throughout the world. Help us respond to your call by joyfully accepting the new life of grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THIRD LESSON.....Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21, RSV

Cantemus Domino *Song of Moses and Miriam* NUN DANKET tone, *St. Martin's Psalter*



Cantor I will sing to the Lord for he has | triumphed gloriously;*
 the horse and its rider he has thrown in- | to the sea.

**All The Lord is my strength | and my song;*
 he has | been my Savior.**

Cantor This is my God, and | I will praise him,*
 my father's God, and I | will exalt him.

**All Your right hand, O Lord, glo- | rious in power,*
 your right hand, O Lord, shat- | ters the enemy.**

Cantor Who among the gods is like | you, O Lord?*

 Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
 awesome in splendor, | doing wonders?

**All In your mercy you led forth the people | you set free;*
 you guided them in your strength to your holy | habitation.**

Cantor You will bring them | in and plant them*
 on the mount that is | your possession,

**All The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling,
 the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands | have prepared.*
 The Lord shall reign forev- | er and ever.**

Silence for reflection.

☞ Let us pray. O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together rejoice on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☛ **Amen**

FOURTH LESSON.....Isaiah 55:1-11, RSV

Silence for reflection.

☞ Let us pray. O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☛ **Amen**

FIFTH LESSONEzekiel 37:1-14, RSV

Silence for reflection.

☞ Let us pray. O God, by the Passover of the Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Breathe into us your life-giving Spirit, that receiving the gifts of Word and Sacrament, we may live in the hope of all your blessings to come, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☛ **Amen**

SIXTH LESSONJonah 1:1—2:1, RSV

Silence for reflection.

☞ Let us pray. O God of deliverance, you saved Jonah through the waters of death, and after three days you brought him to new life. You have united all nations in the confession of your name. Now give us the will and the power to do what you command, that the faith of the people whom you call to everlasting life may direct their speech and actions; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☛ **Amen**

SEVENTH LESSONDaniel 3:1-29, RSV

Benedicite

Traditional

Response:



Cantors O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord;

O ye waters that be above the firmament bless ye the Lord;

O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord;

O ye stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord;

O ye showers and dew, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Response:



Cantors O ye winds of God, bless ye the Lord;
O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord;
O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye dews and frosts, bless ye the Lord;
O ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord;
O ye ice and snow, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord;
O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord;
O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O let the earth bless ye the Lord;
O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye wells, bless ye the Lord;
O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord;
O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord;
O ye children of men, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye people of God, bless ye the Lord;
O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Cantors O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord;
O ye holy and humble men of heart, bless ye the Lord.
Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;

All Praise him and magnify him forever.

Congregational Renewal of Baptismal Vows

P Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic church.

P Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

C **I will, with God's help.**

A Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

C **I will, with God's help.**

P Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

C **I will, with God's help.**

A Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

C **I will, with God's help.**

P Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

C **I will, with God's help.**

A May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The people now form a line and move to the font and are signed with water. There are two stations, with the Presiding Minister at one and the Assisting Minister at the other.

Organ Voluntary *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde Groß*, BWV 622 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

P Receive the mark of the water in the sign of the Cross.

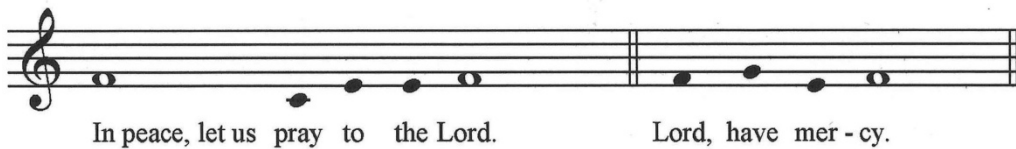
A Remember that in Baptism you have been buried with Christ and are risen with Him again.

PROCESSION OUTDOORS

After being signed with the baptismal water, please head outdoors until all are signed. We gather on the sidewalk, facing the church steps, while the Chancel is prepared for the joyous first celebration of the Easter Eucharist.

DEACON'S LITANY *The Litany is chanted by the Cantor and congregation.*

[Spoken] Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs, singing "Lord, have mercy."



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

For Bishop Dan, for all servants of the Church, and for all the members of this parish, let us pray to the Lord.

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

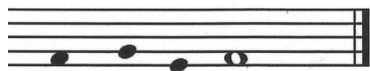
For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and for all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

For refugees and for casualties of war, for the sick and for those recovering from surgery, and for our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, sickness, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Concluding as follows:

☐ For those who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

☐ Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our Lord.

☐ **To you, O Lord.**

Silence

☐ (*Spoken*) For you are a merciful God and the lover of all humanity, and unto you do we ascribe majesty and glory, O Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always and throughout everlasting ages.

☐ **Amen.**

The First Eucharist of Easter

Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Two

The church bells begin to ring, the lights go up, and the exultant Easter colors are unveiled in the chancel. The Presiding Minister speaks forth the first Easter acclamation, from the rear of the church nave. The ministers lead the procession into the church.

☐ Christ is risen! Alleluia!

☐ **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast
(Next page)

LBW Setting One



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and



strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

(Continued, next page)

☩ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☩ For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 ☩ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ **And also with you.**

☩ Let us pray: O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed in both body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sit

EPISTLE READING Romans 6:3-11 (NRSV)

We were joined into the death of Jesus Christ in baptism and so are liberated from the dominion of sin. We also anticipate that we will be joined into the resurrection of Christ and so will be liberated from the hold death has over our mortal bodies.

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united

with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

death no longer has dominion over him.
¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So

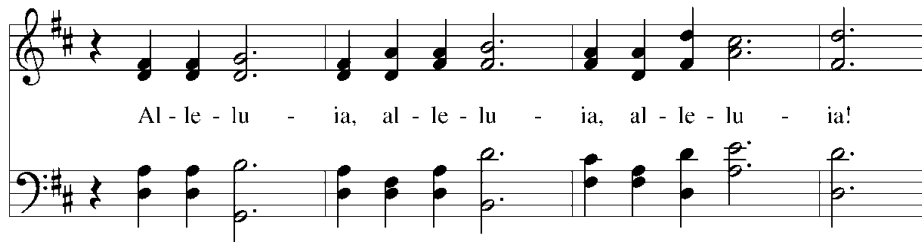
you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Refrain:



Verse 1 (Cantor): Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,
His mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say,
"His mercy endures forever."

Refrain (All)

Verse 2 (Cantor) The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
I shall not die but live,
And declare the works of the Lord.

Refrain (All)

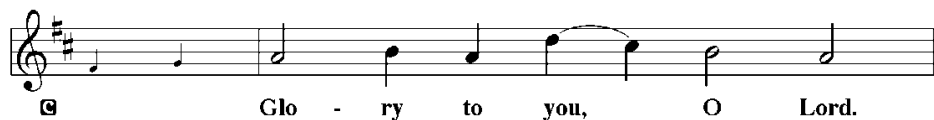
Verse 3 (Cantor): The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing,
And it is marvelous in our eyes.

Refrain (All)

HOLY GOSPELMark 16:1-8, RSV

Before the Gospel:

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.



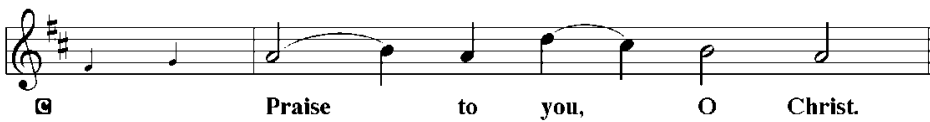
¹⁶And when the sabbath was past, Mary and Salo'me, bought spices, so that they
Mag'dalene, and Mary the mother of James, might go and anoint him. ²And very early

on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. ³And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. ⁶And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek

Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.” ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

After the Gospel:

P The Gospel of the Lord!



SERMON *A reading from a patristic sermon.*

At the start of the sermon, the minister says:

P Christ is risen! Alleluia!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

At the end of the sermon, the minister repeats:

P Christ is risen! Alleluia!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C **And also with you.**

The people then greet one another in the name of the Risen Lord: “Peace be with you.”

THE OFFERING *We collect our tithes and offerings via our good, old offering plates. Or you can contribute via our QR code. Just point the camera on your smart phone to the code:*



The Eucharistic Bread and Wine are moved from the credence table to the altar.

HYMN LBW 138

He Is Arisen! Glorious Word!

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

The people stand as the gifts of bread, wine and money are brought forward.

Offertory Prayer

A Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us -- ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



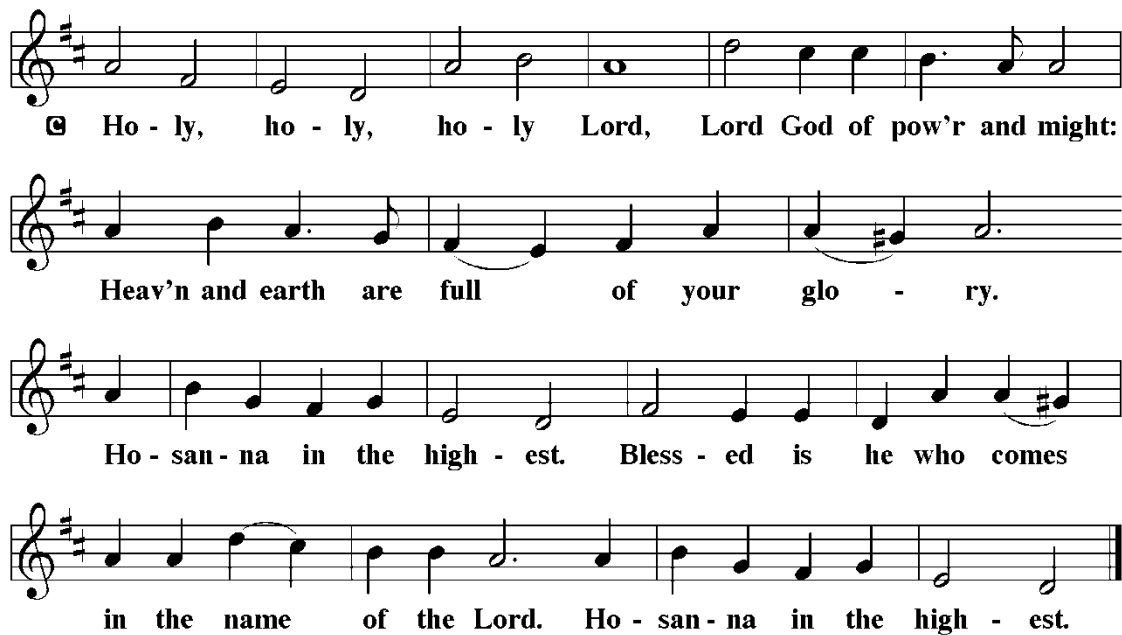
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface for Easter Sunday

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer II

☩ You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

☩ Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of our Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly on this day we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives,

when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

C Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al - might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

The Lord's Prayer

C 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen

THE FRACTION. *The host is broken. Then is said:*

P Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

C Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

Agnus Dei



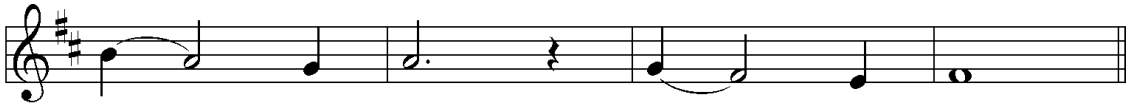
☒ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

- ✦ Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians. Lutherans celebrate this Blessed Sacrament with the understanding that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- ✦ Please come forward by way of the center aisle and the minister will drop the Communion host into your hands. Then bear off to the side where the minister will distribute the Eucharistic wine. If you would like to receive the Wine then please try to take the little plastic cup from the minister by the top edge. When you are done with the wine, please place your little cup on the tray. We mean to carefully and respectfully dispose of the remaining wine in the little cups.
- ✦ You are welcome to bring your hymnal with you to the Communion rail and continue singing the hymns until receiving the sacrament.
- ✦ If you should desire to pray quietly before or while receiving the Holy Sacrament, as many Christians do, here is one of Luther's prayers for that purpose:

Lord, it is true that I am not worthy that you should come under my roof. Yet I am in need and desire your help and grace. So I come with no other plea except that I have heard the gracious invitation to come to your altar. I am unworthy, but you have assured me I shall have forgiveness of all sins through your body and blood which I eat and drink in this sacrament. Amen, dear Lord; your Word is true. I do not doubt it. Let happen to me whatever you say. Amen.

- ✦ And if you should desire to pray quietly after receiving the Holy Communion, here is a possible such prayer. It is based on a prayer of St. Basil the Great (329-379):

☉ Master, Christ our God: I thank you for all the good things which you have bestowed upon me, and for this partaking of your life-giving Sacrament. And I pray: keep me, my loved ones, and this congregation under your protection, and in the shadow of your wings. For you are the Bread of Life, the Fountain of holiness, the Giver of good things, and unto you we

ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

HYMN LBW 135

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

VICTORY

HYMN LBW 136

Christ Is Arisen

CHRIST IST ERSTANDEN

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our risen savior, Jesus Christ, and you have nourished us with the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart: through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Sending

SOLEMN BLESSING

P May Almighty God bless you on the solemn feast of Easter, and may he protect you against all sin.

C Amen.

P Through the resurrection of his Son, God has granted us healing. May he fulfill his promises, and bless you with eternal life.

C Amen.

P You have mourned for Christ's sufferings; now you celebrate the joys of his resurrection. May you come with joy to the feast which lasts forever.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN LBW 145

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

DISMISSAL

D Christ is risen! Alleluia!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Fugue on A. L. A. I. N.

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Parish Notes

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church as we celebrate the Queen of Feasts! We acclaim the presence of the Risen Lord in our midst as he comes to us in Word and Sacrament. If you are visiting with us we extend a special welcome and invite you to return. You are always welcome at Immanuel Church!

- ✦ Please join us now in the undercroft for fellowship and food.
- ✦ We warmly invite you to the Festival Easter Eucharist tomorrow morning at 11 a.m. The whole service is the church's way in sermon, song, and sacrament of proclaiming, "Christ is risen! Alleluia!"
- ✦ Thank you! We say it again: Thank you to the ushers, greeters, presenters, liturgical planners, and to everyone who helped prepare and lead this liturgy!
- ✦ COPYRIGHTS: Parts of the liturgy and scripture introductions come from or are based on those from *Sundays and Seasons*, Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress, license SAS022429. Permission to reprint, podcast, and or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-713464. Readings of Holy Scripture are often downloaded from Bible Gateway: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.

Service Notes

Organist and Choirmaster.....	Zac Schurman
Cantors.....	Teresa Castillo, Kerrigan Bigelow, Tony Beck
Greeters/Ushers.....	Luz Ortiz and Jazo Ichikawa
Altar Guild.....	Thomas Wicks
Crucifer	Matthias Bhasin
Readers for the Service of Readings	
• First Lesson	Richard Schreiber
• Second Lesson.....	Percy Ranaivohajarivony
• Third Lesson	Rev. Lara Bhasin
• Fourth Lesson	Maggie Schreiber
• Fifth Lesson.....	David Goldman
• Sixth Lesson	Thomas Wicks
• Seventh Lesson	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
Deacon for the Easter Proclamation.....	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
Lector for the Epistle Lesson.....	Rev. Lara Bhasin
Assisting Minister	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
Communion Assistant.....	Rev. Lara Bhasin
Presiding Minister and Reader of the Patristic Sermon.....	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Intercessions

FAIRLY NEW TO THE PRAYER LIST: Jonathan Jenkins and Judy McKee (friends of Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer), Dorothy Leung and Dakota Chin (family to Priscilla O'Carroll), Wolfgang Hahn, Richard Ortiz, his wife, Maria, and their daughter, Damaris (Richard is Luz Ortiz's cousin), Edna Szmodis, Carole Smith, Davida Goldman, Clifford Rose, Susan McIntosh (Richard McIntosh's sister), Stephen and Jean Fischer, Sally Gaudons, Timna Rosenheimer (friend of David Kiehl)

Some Notes on Our Church Nave and Liturgy

- ✦ Our congregation is one of the historic Lutheran churches in town, going back to the middle of the Civil War, 1863. We are a member of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The national bishop of the NALC is Rev. Daniel Selbo.
- ✦ You might be interested to hear about our reredos — the wooden altarpiece at the front of our church. It was hand carved by artists in Germany's Black Forest. The left statue is Moses, with the Ten Commandments in his left arm and the two horn-like rays of light shining forth from his face after his encounter with the Lord on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 34:29-30). The right-hand statue is St. John the Evangelist, with a quill pen in his hand and an eagle at his feet. And the center statue is Jesus Christ, the personal unity and the most perfect meaning of the Law (Moses) and the Gospel (St. John).
- ✦ Our painting of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, above the reredos, pays tribute to the founding liturgy of our congregation, Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 1863. Our painting shows Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the ground, so that at first glance you might think that it is a painting of the Ascension. But the saintly company with Jesus — Moses and Elijah on either side, with Peter, James, and John fallen down in awe at the sight — point to the Transfiguration. Heaven knows and gives credit to the anonymous painter of our painting, but we note that it is in the style of Raphael's painting of *The Transfiguration* (1517-1520). Raphael also placed Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the disciples.
- ✦ Our church windows were installed in 1973 and constitute a visual meditation on an ancient hymn of the Church, the *Te Deum*. Pamphlets are available in the rear of the church explaining the windows one by one.
- ✦ Our church bells, named *Glaube, Hoffnung, and Liebe* for Faith, Hope, and Love, were a gift from German Empress Augusta Viktoria.
- ✦ A hint about acoustics: you will be able to hear the choir and organ better if you sit toward the front half of the church. The overhanging choir balcony obscures some of the beauty of the music for those sitting under it.
- ✦ Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me," and we view the presence of children in worship, even when they are wiggly and noisy, as a gift to the Church and an encouragement that our congregation is growing!
- ✦ Our worship book is the green hymnal, the *Lutheran Book of Worship* ("LBW"). This book contains both liturgies and hymns, with liturgies in the first half and hymns in the second. Sometimes we include

hymns from *With One Voice* ("WOV") or from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ("ELW").

✚ If you have a cell phone, please silence it for the liturgy. And please finish coffee or other drinks out in the narthex rather than in the main nave.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street ❖ New York, NY 10128 ❖ (212) 289-8128

Office Hours: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday - Friday

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION 11 a.m. Sundays
MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 a.m. Sundays
BIBLE STUDY 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Martin Luther Room or via Zoom
PARISH SECRETARY Karen Katz-Shea
SEXTON Gerry Britton
PARISH BOOKKEEPER Charles Derderian
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER Zac Schurman
CANTOR Olivia Ericsson oliviaer@umich.edu
ASSISTANT PASTOR Rev. Lara Bhasin
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
PASTOR Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Some Parish Ministry Opportunities:

CHOIR Organist and Choirmaster Zac Schurman
zac.schurman@juilliard.edu
MEALS ON HEELS Barbara Chomko (bchomko@nyc.rr.com)

We extend to you a cordial welcome and hope that you will return. If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the Pastors. If you are interested in membership here at Immanuel, please contact the church office for an appointment with Pastor Carol (ceafryer@gmail.com) or Pastor Lara (lara.bhasin@tsm.edu).

- ✚ HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Church's faith, who confess it with us (as in the Creeds), and who may in good conscience receive the Sacrament in keeping with the understanding with which it is celebrated here: namely, that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- ✚ IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS ILL, hospitalized, homebound, or otherwise in need of the ministry of the Church, let us know. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com or lara.bhasin@tsm.edu.
- ✚ We mean for PRIVATE CONFESSION to be available as often as you need. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.