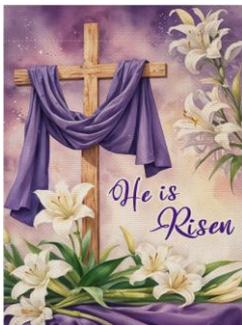


ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
APRIL 5, 2026
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
EASTER DAY - HOLY COMMUNION



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Blended Worship Service

9:45 am - Sunday Church School

9:45 am - Children's SS and Choir

11:00 am - First Sunday of Each Month

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173

Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager

Karen's Cell Phone: 717-580-7507

Church Office: 717-766-4482

Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

Office Hours: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM - Monday through Thursday

Denise Hirn, Director of Children's Choir

Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064

Email: denisehirn@hotmail.com

Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795

Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

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APRIL 5, 2026
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EASTER DAY - HOLY COMMUNION



GUESTS:

We would like to get to know you! Please complete a "Welcome to St. Mark Church" card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. Thank you!

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY:

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS:

**Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists
Monday, April 6, 2026**

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Asterisk (*) in the margin of this bulletin indicates the congregation shall rise as able.

PRELUDE

The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

arr. M. Helman

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Alleluia Resurrection

*GATHERING

P CHRIST IS RISEN.

C HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA!

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel or be seated.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; 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!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, 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!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

*GREETING

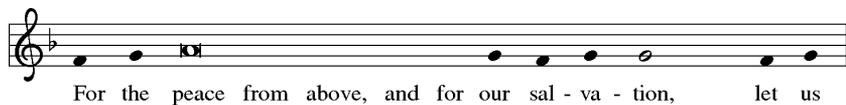
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE



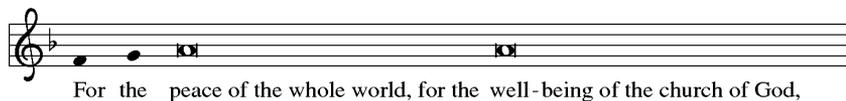
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



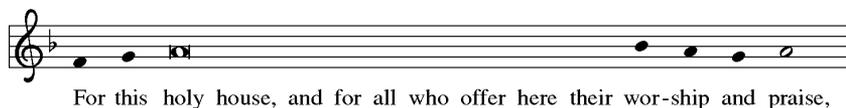
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



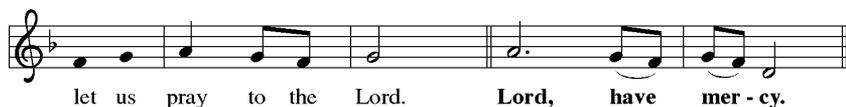
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

*HYMN OF PRAISE



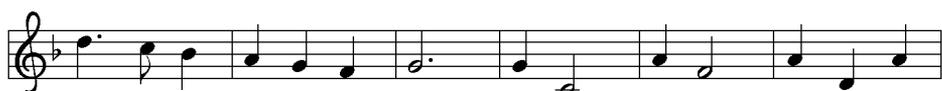
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



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



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



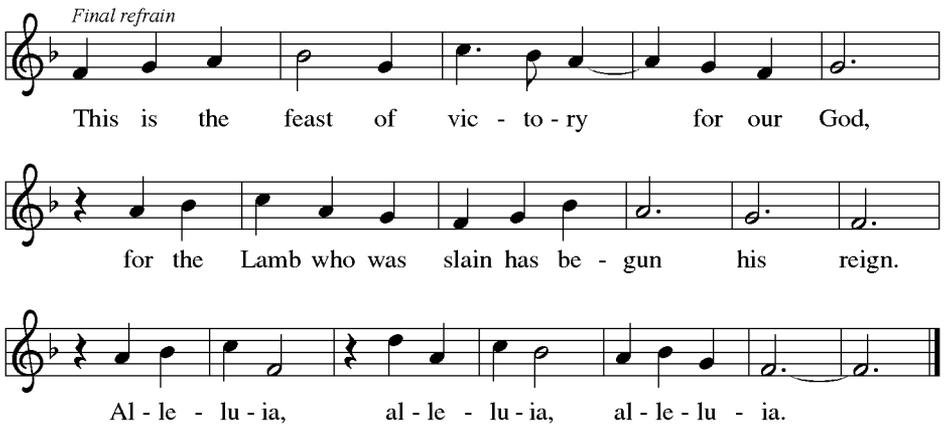
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



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

(Continued next page.)

Final refrain



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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P Let us pray.
 P 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.
 C Amen.

ANTHEM

Our Savior is Alive

Words by N. Price / Music by D. Besig

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

- P Let us pray.
 Bless O Lord, your servant Sara Jane as she reads to us the Holy Word. May our hearts burn within us as you open to us the scriptures; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 C Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

- R A reading from Acts.

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.”

R Word of God, word of life,
C Thanks be to God.

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

(Please sing the Psalm responsively. Choir the regular print; congregation the bold print.)



¹Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;
his mercy en- | dures forever

²Let Israel | now proclaim,
“His mercy en- | dures forever.”

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

¹⁵**There is a sound of exulta- | tion and victory
in the tents | of the righteous:**

¹⁶“The right hand of the | LORD has triumphed!
The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the | LORD
has triumphed!”

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

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

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

²⁰ “This is the gate | of the LORD;
he who is right- | eous may enter.”

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

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

²³ **This is | the LORD’s doing,
and it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

²⁴ **On this day the | LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be | glad in it.**

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

R A reading from Colossians.

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.

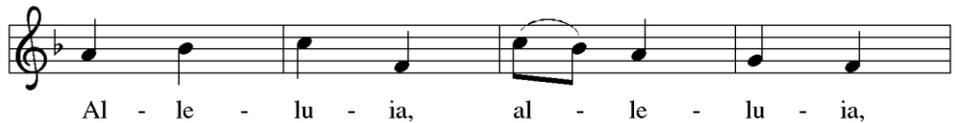
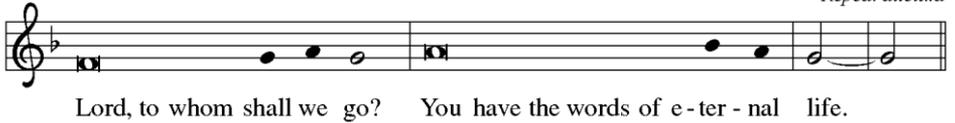
R Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*ALLELUIA VERSE



Repeat alleluia



*GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to “fear and great joy” when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

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

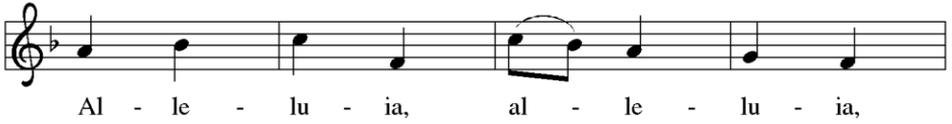
C Glory to you, O Lord.

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

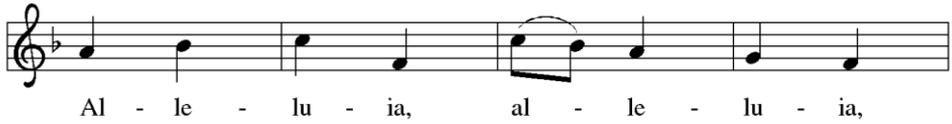
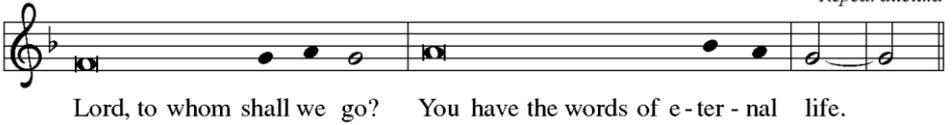
came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



Repeat alleluia



***HYMN OF THE DAY** Hail Thee, Festival Day!



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;



day when our Lord was raised, break - ing the king - dom of death.



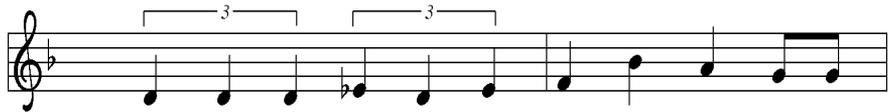
Easter 1 All the fair beau - ty of earth from the



death of the win - ter a - ris - ing! Ev - 'ry good



gift of the year now with its mas - ter re - turns:



Easter 2 Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the au - thor of



life and cre - a - tion. Tread - ing the path - way of



death, new life you give to us all:

Refrain

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530-609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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***NICENE CREED**

**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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 INTERCESSION

A Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Christ Arose

R. Lowry

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most Holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Text © 1958 *service book and hymnal*, admin. Augsburg fortress.

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***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

A 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,

C **Amen.**

***PREFACE**

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 him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in 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:

*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
 Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
 Breathe new life into us.
 Send us forth,
 burning with justice, peace, and love.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P With your holy ones of all times and places,
 with the earth and all its creatures,
 with sun and moon and stars,
 we praise you, O God,
 blessed and holy Trinity,
 now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***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.

*COMMUNION

P Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.



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.

COMMUNION

All baptized, communion Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. We have gluten free bread available and white grape juice (in addition to our traditional homemade bread and red wine) for those who need or prefer those. Simply let the pastor or assisting minister know if you prefer something other than bread and wine. Remember that we are promised that Christ is truly present in, with, and under each element.

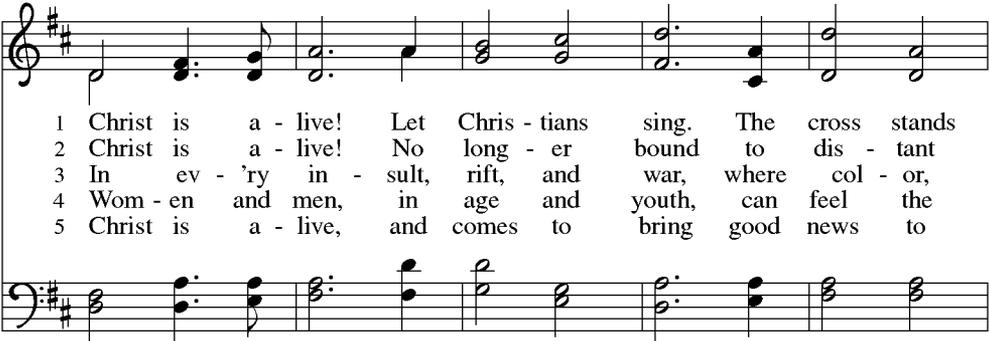
P The body of Christ, given for you.

C Amen.

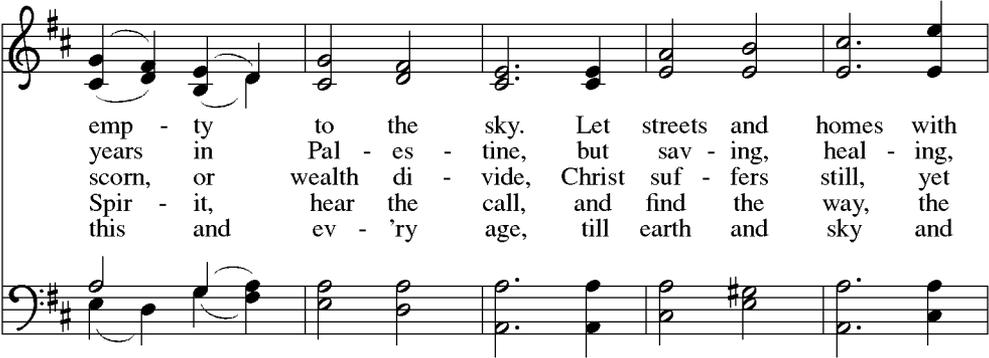
A The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C Amen.

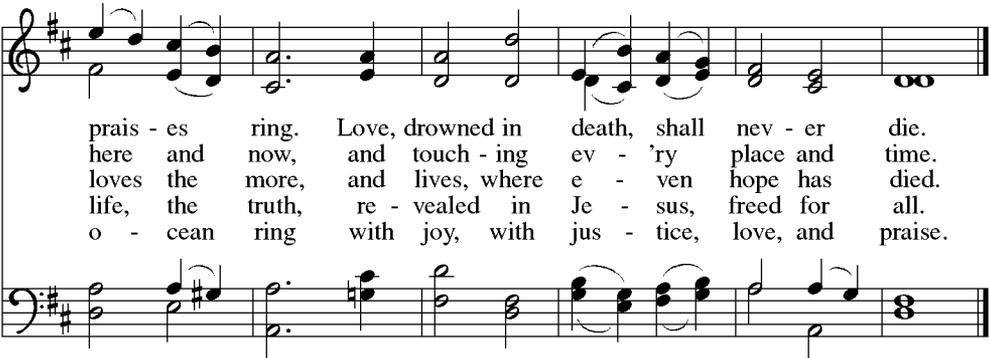
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

***P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

A 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,

C Amen.

***BLESSING**

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

C Amen.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
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,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
where thy bod - y lay.
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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

*POSTLUDE

Welcome Happy Morning

E. Mead



Sincere thanks and blessings to everyone who sponsored lilies or donated to Mechanicsburg Area Meals On Wheels.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:	Karen Heath
Lay Reader:	Sara Jane Miller
Acolyte:	Caroline Stull
Ushers:	Tina Freidhof, Michele Connor
Altar Guild:	Connie Kuntz, Bev Reihart

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, April 5

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
EASTER DAY

8:30 am
11:00 am
12:00 pm

Worship Service-Communion
Worship Service-Communion
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, April 6

EASTER MONDAY

7:00 pm

German Group

Tuesday, April 7

Wednesday, April 8

11:00 am
1:00 pm
2:00 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm

Bible Study
Finance Committee
Worship & Music Committee
Bell Choir
Adult Choir

Thursday, April 9

9:00 am
2:30 pm
3:00 pm

Property Committee
Violin Lessons
Fellowship Committee (*note time change
for this month only*)

Friday, April 10

2:30 pm

Violin Lessons

Saturday, April 11

10:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt and Refreshments

Sunday, April 12

8:30 am
9:45 am
9:45 am
10:45 am
12:00 pm

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY
Worship Service
Church Sunday School
Children's SS & Choir
Youth & Family Ministry
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

FIRST READING
PSALM
SECOND READING
GOSPEL

APRIL 12, 2026
Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Our annual Easter egg hunt is scheduled for the Saturday after Easter. All children are invited to join us on **Saturday, April 11, at 10:00 AM** for an Easter lesson and hunt for treat-filled plastic eggs.

Please return filled eggs to the Upper Room or to a member of the Youth and Family Ministry Committee no later than TODAY, Easter Sunday (April 5, 2026). If you would like to help out on the day of the hunt, please contact Pastor Marleen or Amy Gimbel (YFM Chair).

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

On Sunday, **April 12**, during worship, we will have our regular elements of worship with fun and creative moments and experiences mixed in. We will use God's gifts of laughter and joy to enjoy the new life that Christ gave us through the Easter miracle as we gather in worship, celebration, and praise! Let's laugh at the devil through our humor! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

MONTHLY SUNDAYS TO BENEFIT NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

The Social Ministry Outreach Committee designates one Sunday a month to collect items for New Hope Ministries. Here are the items for April, May, and June:

April 19

May 24 (Pentecost)

June 14

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Ketchup and Mustard

(Wear red and bring red)

Cleaning Products

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Sell your stuff or come to shop! Join us on **Saturday, May 9 from 9:00 am--?** for a yard sale on our back lawn. Everyone is welcome to set up starting at 7:00 am. Mechanicsburg Borough does not permit sales before 9:00 am. If you would like to use one of our tables, we are requesting a donation of \$10.00. You must carry out and return. Refreshments will be available for a free-will offering.

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting is **May 12 at 1:00 PM**. The book is "*The Red Tent*," by Anita Diamont. *The Red Tent* (1997) is a compelling retelling of the biblical story from the perspective of Dinah, daughter of Jacob and Leah. The book explores Dinah's experiences as a woman in the biblical era, her time in the red tent, and her ill-fated love affair with Prince Shalem. The novel highlights family dynamics, female

empowerment, and the lives of strong, distinct women within Jacob's household. Readers follow Dinah from childhood through her adulthood, including her work as a midwife in Egypt and her struggle to find independence from her family. Anita Diamant's narrative transforms a brief biblical account into a rich, intimate story of love, loss, and resilience.

We look forward to conversation and fellowship with you. We encourage you to share and invite a friend. The book is available through the library, Amazon, or Thrift books.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED

Altar flower sponsors are needed for **April 12 and 26 as well as May 3, 17, and 31**. Please use the form located in the bulletins or at entrances to the church. Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244 with questions.

LAWN TRACTOR

Property has found a lawn tractor to cut grass and also has an attachment to blow snow. The cost for the tractor with snow blower attachment is **\$7,410** that will hopefully arrive by the end of April.

To date, we have collected \$4,067.00 toward the cost of the tractor which leaves us with a current balance of \$3,343.00.

If you would like to help pay for the tractor, please use one of the "Special Offering" lines on your offering envelope and mark it "mower."

We will need to pay for the tractor when it is delivered so any outstanding balance will need to be funded by a line of credit loan from the bank.

PRAYER LIST UPDATING

The current Prayer List will be emptied at the end of April. If you would like an individual's name to remain on the Prayer List, please contact Karen in the church office.

SPREAD TAN BARK—WE NEED YOU!!!

We will be spreading tan bark on **Saturday, May 16, beginning at 8:00, rain or shine**. Shovels, pitchforks, rakes and/or wheelbarrows are helpful to bring, but are not required. Please let Ben Yost know if you plan to be there. The more, the merrier, and the quicker it gets done!

St. Mark Lutheran Church

Easter EGG HUNT!

Join us for a fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt!

117 West Keller Street,
Mechanicsburg, PA

Saturday, April 11, 2026 • 10:00 a.m.

Eggs, Treats & Prizes! All are welcome!



Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026

Place: St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
Back Yard

Set Up: Starts at 7:00 AM

Sell: 9:00 AM
Trinkets and Treasures

Tables: Available from church to use. You must carry outside and return. (*We are requesting a \$10.00 donation towards the purchase of a new sign for our back yard.*)

Refreshments:
Free-will donation.

Resurrection Easter Word Search

Y G W A U T H O R I T Y C V E N T Y T P M E Q P
 T K N W I T N U O C C A N E L O B T Z A D V G U
 A R E H C A E T B A P G N L V I E B I C R W A R
 T U D U D H O G Z V R G C F C T J J I R M X L O
 H T S B W N Q H O P E O M M U A I L O K G P I L
 D Y E B I O D R Z D G L Z L R R R M V T U N L L
 O N V U E I E A B V Z G B W T B K Q Z S C S E E
 C T E R S T I Z A Q O O W G A E J E B A U U E D
 N T R N D C F X Y D K T N N I L B T N Q Y O J A
 O S L B R E I K J Z H H R I N E P D Q I Q W O M
 I T A M A R C G F K X A N K A C O T W C M M P F
 T X S W U R U S R E I D L O S O J E T E R N A L
 A T T I G U R Z B L H G J D S T S E L T S O P A
 E D I T N S C N F A U Q T O M B N E S I R M H A
 R W N H L E E J X D R R E H T A F Z X H S A V X
 C G G E I R K T I R I P S Y L O H H E V I L A P
 N T I D N O L Z U W T T H I E F C T E N W I U J
 S E C A E P I D H G I V I N T N A V R E S J X V
 L M A O N E N E R A Z A N Y F B S P I C E S T X
 A B J Q N O E D D E A S T E R U N N Y W P X N V
 E B E N K S G C M J O T F U R R A G E N I V A O
 K D S E B O A I C R O S S H M E S S S I A H K J
 I F U C G N F Q B Q J K X W R I G H T E O U S W
 C K S G D K F Y S A N G E L S U S Y T E B A Q Y

resurrection	everlasting	celebration	holyspirit	authority	righteous
crucified	soldiers	apostles	nazarene	messsiah	golgotha
creation	account	servant	teacher	galilee	vinegar
curtain	eternal	Father	guards	rolled	cross
angels	easter	peace	thief	linen	spices
empty	alive	risen	Jesus	king	hope
tomb	joy	son			



Geraniums for

Geraniums for Pentecost

If you would like to sponsor a geranium for Pentecost on **May 24**, please complete the form below.

The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Please place the form with your payment in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday, May 3.

Please make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and put "Altar Guild" on the memo line.

The geraniums will be planted in the flower beds of the church on May 26.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

To the Glory of God

Presented by _____

_____ Total number of geraniums ordered

Amount of Check: \$ _____

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY

STRONGLY SUNG ALLELUIAS

In Matthew's telling of the Easter story, Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" are the first to experience the resurrection of Jesus (28:1). Earthquake, descending angel, and convulsing grave-guards all attest to this miraculous feat of God's love defeating death forever. The angelic invitation to the women to behold the bodiless resting place of Jesus is met with evangelistic fervor; the women race off full of "fear and great joy" (v. 8) to tell the others. Their run from the empty tomb, however, is interrupted by the risen Christ. A simple word of greeting from Jesus sends the women to the ground; they "took hold of his feet, and worshiped him" (v. 9).

What did this first Easter-morning worship look like? Did the women recite traditional Jewish prayers? Were they moved to sing? Might this worshipful moment be the time and place the first Easter "alleluia" was uttered? Perhaps they harkened back to Psalm 118 and sang to Jesus, "The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation" (v. 14). At the feet of Jesus, the women found strength as they bore witness to God's liberation and the power of resurrection. This was the Jesus they would share with the other disciples and, by extension, the world. This is the Jesus they would sing out to others in Galilee and beyond. A new day had dawned; Easter had arrived. Alleluia!

The church gathers on this Easter Day to join in the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen. We gather to share in the wonder and joy of Mary and Mary, whose worshipful witness has become our own. We join in the prayers, the confession, the Easter fervor that knows the salvation of our God, our strength and our song. A new day, an Easter Day, has come. "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Indeed, let us rejoice, worship, and sing out strong: Alleluia! Alleluia!

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN, INDEED—ALLELUIA!

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