

**Grow ... Go ... Gather**  
**April 25, 2021**



**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**(LCMS)**

2040 Oakwood Avenue N.E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505



**Pastor Glenn E. Schaeffer**

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# The Fourth Sunday in Easter

## The Order of Service (Matins)

### Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

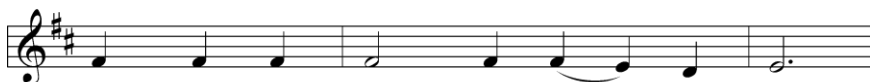
#### The Opening Hymn: LSB 464, "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;  
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,  
4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell;  
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;  
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.  
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.  
The bars from heav'n's high por - tals fell.  
From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

*The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.*



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Let hymns of praise His tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Text and tune: Public domain*

#### Versicles and Common Response *LSB 219*

- P** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your  
praise.  
**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and  
will be forever. Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

**The Common Antiphon**      *LSB 220*



**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



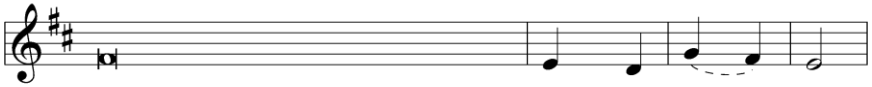
**C** O come, let us wor-ship Him.

**Venite**

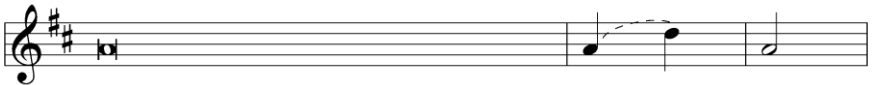
*LSB 220*



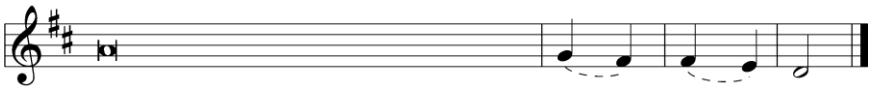
**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,  
  
5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.  
2 and a great . . . . . king a-bove all gods.  
3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.  
  
5 and to the . . . . . Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,  
2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . in His hand;  
3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . bow down,  
4 For He . . . . . is our God,  
5 as it was in the be-gin-ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . Him with songs of praise.  
2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . His al - so.  
3 let us kneel before the . . . . . Lord, our mak - er.  
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.  
5 is now, and will be for - - ev - er. A - men.

### The Common Antiphon *LSB 221*



**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** O come, let us wor-ship Him.

### ✠ The Scripture Readings ✠

#### The First Reading: *Acts 4:1-12*

As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we

are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**The Second Reading:** *1 John 3:16–24*

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**A Hymn:** "Living Hope" (Phil Wickham)

**Verse 1**

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ my living hope

**Verse 2**

Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

**Chorus**

***Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope (2 Xs)***

**Verse 3**

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me

**(REPEAT)**

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa **(Chorus 2 Xs)**

## Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope  
Oh God You are my living hope

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## The Gospel Lesson: *John 10:11–18*

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsory for Easter *LSB 222*

**P** Sing to the Lord and bless His name,  
proclaim His salvation from day to day.

**C** Give to the Lord all glory and strength,  
give Him the honor due His name.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**P** Now is Christ risen from the dead and  
become the firstfruits of them that sleep.

**C** Give to the Lord all glory and strength,  
give Him the honor due His name.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and  
to the Holy Spirit.

**C** Give to the Lord all glory and strength,  
give Him the honor due His name.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### A Sermon Hymn: LSB 475, "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice and sing! Now is the tri-umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to  
3 Praise we in songs of vic-to-ry That love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris-en Lord, And sing to-day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
strew His way; Let all the world re-joice and say:  
can-not die, And sing with hearts up-lift-ed high:  
one ac-cord The life laid down, the life re-stored:



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

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*Tune: Public domain*

## The Sermon



# A Hymn: LSB 486 "If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death"



1 If Christ had not been raised from death Our faith would be in vain,  
 2 If Christ still lay with - in the tomb Then death would be the end,  
 3 If Christ had not been tru - ly raised His Church would live a lie;



Our preach - ing but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt re - main.  
 And we should face our fi - nal doom With nei - ther guide nor friend.  
 His name should nev - er - more be praised, His words de - serve to die.



But now the Lord is ris'n in - deed; He rules in earth and heav'n:  
 But now the Sav - ior is raised up, So when a Chris - tian dies  
 But now our great Re - deem - er lives; Through Him we are re - stored;



His Gos - pel meets a world of need— In Christ we are for - giv'n.  
 We mourn, yet look to God in hope— In Christ the saints a - rise!  
 His Word en - dures, His Church re - vives In Christ, our ris - en Lord.

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## The Offering Prayer, the General Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**☐ 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.**

**A Song:** LSB 488, "He is Arisen! Glorious Word"

He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled  
is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.  
My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -  
rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.  
O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,  
Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**The Benedicamus and Benediction**      *LSB 228*

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**

**The Closing Hymn:** "Christ is Risen, He is Risen  
Indeed"

**Verse 1**

How can it be the One who died  
Has borne our sin through sacrifice  
To conquer every sting of death  
Sing sing hallelujah

**Verse 2**

For joy awakes as dawning light  
When Christ's disciples lift their eyes  
Alive He stands their Friend and King  
Christ Christ He is risen

**Chorus**

**Christ is risen He is risen indeed**  
**Oh sing hallelujah**  
**Join the chorus sing with the redeemed**  
**Christ is risen He is risen indeed**

**Verse 3**

Where doubt and darkness once had been  
They saw Him and their hearts believed  
But blessed are those who have not seen  
Yet sing hallelujah

**Verse 4**

Once bound by fear now bold in faith  
They preached the truth and power of grace  
And pouring out their lives they gained  
Life life everlasting **(Chorus)**

**Verse 5**

The power that raised Him from the grave  
Now works in us to powerfully save  
He frees our hearts to live His grace  
Go tell of His goodness **(Chorus 2Xs)**

## Ending

He's alive He's alive  
Heaven's gates are opened wide  
He's alive He's alive  
Now in heaven glorified **(2Xs)**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Events of the Week: April 25 – May 2

- TODAY:**     **11:00 a.m.** Bible study on Facebook  
**Monday:**    **7:30 p.m.** Constitution & By-laws Meeting  
                  on Zoom  
                  *Registration is open for May 2 Worship*  
**Wed:**        **Noon:** Devotional Boost with Pastor  
                  **7:30 p.m.** Pastor's Ephesians Bible Class  
                  on Zoom  
**Thursday:** **10:00 a.m.** Pastor's Ephesians Bible Class  
                  on Zoom  
**Sunday:**    **9:00 a.m.** Gizmo Devotions on Facebook  
                  **9:30 a.m.** COMMUNION WORSHIP at  
                  church (for registered members) and on  
                  Facebook Live  
                  **11:00 a.m.** Bible Study on Facebook

### Those who serve May 2:

**Deacons:** Bryan Ensing and Craig Popma  
**Ushers:** Walt & Karen Kryzanowski

**May Altar Guild:** Rie Wiles

## **FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP:** April 18, 2021

General Fund \$670.00

Total: \$670.00

### **Lutherans For Life Quote: April 25**

“Death is the one thing no Christian has to do on his or her own. Jesus has already been through suffering and death before us. He knows the way through death and the way back to life, too. Our friends and family cannot go with us—but Jesus can. He will never let go of our hands. And He will bring us back to life with Him because He has promised, and He will never lie.”

*Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

To **register for worship**, please go to **bit.ly/stjamesgr** and follow the prompts. If you are unable to sign-up for worship, please contact the office at 363-7718.

*To all my good friends at St. James,  
I want to thank everyone for all your expressions of sympathy regarding Sandy’s passing. I found your cards and comments comforting in my time of grieving. Thank you.*

*Loren Harper*

### **Download our church giving app:**

- 1. Search for the MinistryOne App.** Go to the Google Play Store or the Apple App and search for Ministry One. Download the app to your mobile device.
- 2. Locate the MinistryOne App on your phone.** Our church will appear within the MinistryOne app.
- 3. Find St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church.** You can search by church name, city or zip code.



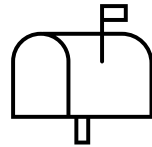
**St. James Lutheran Church has 7 ways to Give.**  
Life made simpler just in time for spring/summer.  
(Or covid worship suspensions)

Website: Look for the word **"Give"** on our website,  
**stjamesgr.com**, or go directly to:

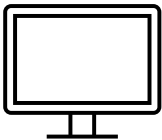
[stjamesgr.com/give](http://stjamesgr.com/give).



**In Person  
at  
St. James**

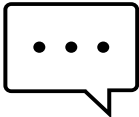


**By Mail:**  
2040 Oakwood Ave.  
Grand Rapids, MI  
49505



**Website:**  
stjamesgr.com

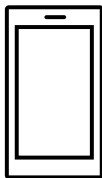
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