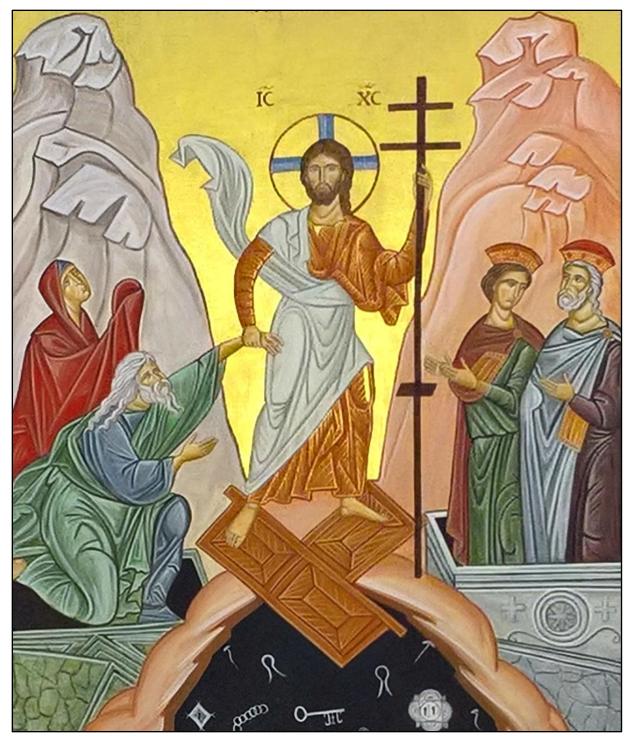
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD 2024



Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



March 31, 2024 ~ Easter Sunday

Leader in regular type, congregation in bold type

1 means stand as you are able

Restrooms are located by the kitchen and at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary by the Wiggle Room.

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

\uparrow LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

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

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy day when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the Church throughout the world in worship, praise and prayer. For this is the passover of the Lord! Through Word and Sacrament, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Let us pray: Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Son of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

↑ DIALOG OF THANKSGIVING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We are illumined by the brightness of his rising! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Death has no more dominion over us! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

When we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

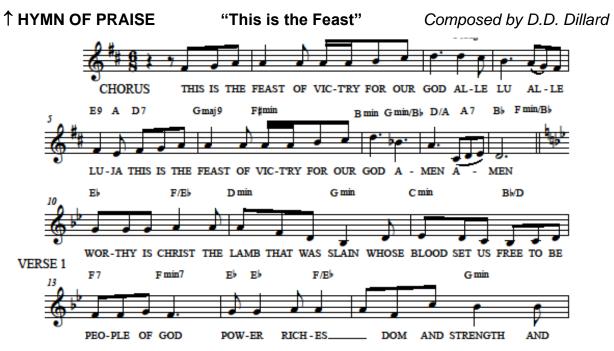
For if we have been united with Christ in a death like his, We shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

† HYMN "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" RED HYMNAL #367

↑ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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





\uparrow PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: 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. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

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."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever. ²Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."

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

¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!" ¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. ¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death. ¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me

and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

\uparrow GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Composed by D.D. Dillard



↑ GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the

place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

If children wish, they may go to the Wiggle Room for a special lesson and craft during the sermon.

SERMON

^ HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

RED HYMNAL #365

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the risen Lord, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need of Good News.

Holy God and Father, fill your Church in all times and places with the splendor of your Son's risen life. Where it is persecuted, protect it. Where it is fractured, heal it. Make all your people ambassadors of the resurrection. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Life-giving God, bring new life and growth to creation. Bless budding trees with branches lifted in praise, blossoming flowers that show forth your beauty, and roaring waters that are filled with new life. Grant that all things might bear witness to your glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, bring your freedom, justice and peace upon this and every nation. Give wisdom and honesty to civic leaders, and protect all who serve for our protection. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, breathe new life and hope into people struggling with needs of body, mind or spirit. We pray especially for Amanda, Annalise, Anya, Bill, Brian, Carolyn, Cecelia, Christine, Clara, Dale, Danielle, Dallas, Elizabeth, Erica, Grace, Jan, Janet, Kenneth, Kimberly, Marilyn, Mercedes, Patrick, Richard, Sarah, Viola and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *Time for personal petitions* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, bring the joy of Easter to Tree of Life. Inspire us to proclaim the Gospel to all around us, in all that we say and in all that we do. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; St. Peter's Lutheran Church and its pastors Frank and Harry, and Mosaic of Delaware. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, accept our thanksgiving for all who have died in the faith and now live in your glory. Sustain us in the sure hope of the resurrection, until that day when we are all gathered around your eternal Easter feast. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

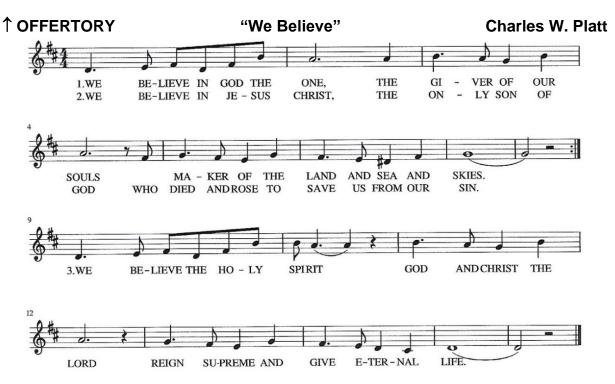
Into your hands, most merciful God, we lift up all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

\uparrow **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

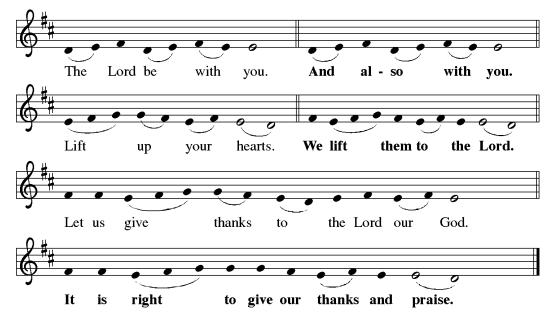
We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING



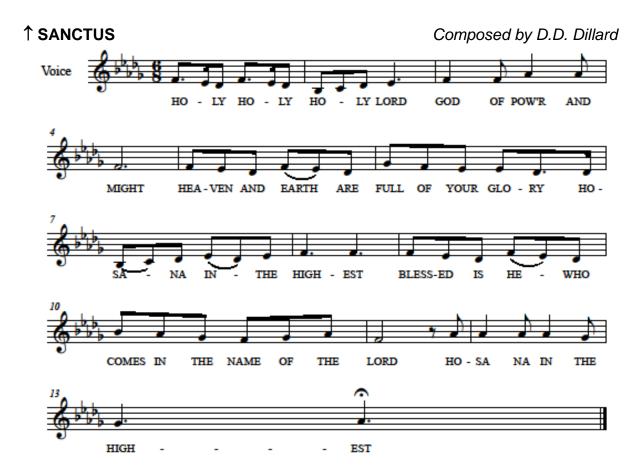
↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of heaven and earth. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



\uparrow GREAT THANKSGIVING

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:



↑ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

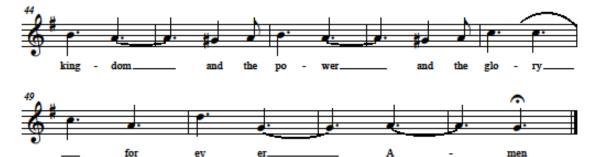






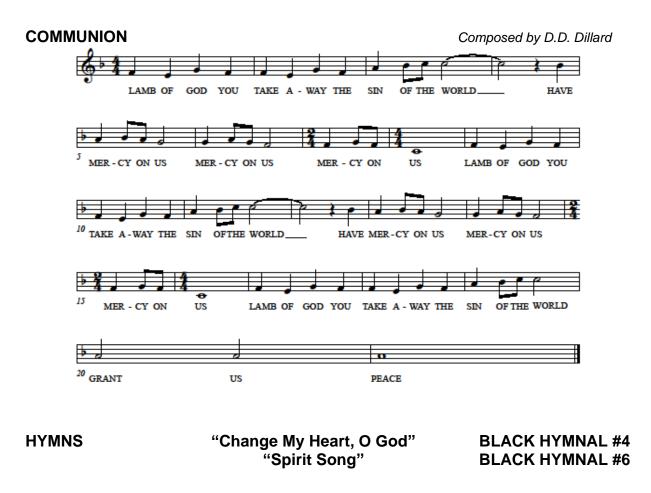






↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us! **Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Life-giving Father, in the mystery of your Son's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Christ's life, that we may show your glory to all the world, through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Thine is the Glory"

RED HYMNAL #376

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.

↑ DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church!

We are a growing congregation located in Odessa, and part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). In a friendly atmosphere, we teach the Gospel of the Lord and share a living confidence in God's grace. We embrace you as a whole person – questions, complexities and all. Our mission is to be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the world.

<u>Worship</u>

We gather for worship with Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. We follow a traditional order of worship, with both traditional and more contemporary music. People wear everything from suits to T-shirts, so no matter how you look, you'll fit right in!

<u>Youth</u>

Kingdom Kids is our youth group, which meets most Fridays during the school year from 4-5:30 p.m. Youth from kindergarten through high school are welcome; after a snack, we then have age-appropriate lessons for younger kids and teens.

<u>Seniors</u>

Our "Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors" (OWLS) get together every month for a meal or a special outing. And even if you don't consider yourself "older," you can still join the fun!

Service

We work with Neighborhood House and Our Daily Bread in Middletown to help those in need in our area. Our 'Knot-Quilters' prepare quilts for people worldwide.

To Learn More

Find us online at *TreeOfLifeChurchDE.com* Find us on Facebook at *Tree of Life Lutheran Church* Call us at (302) 378-3345 Or come and join us again! We'd love to meet you!

