

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
15733 Dover Road
Upperco, Maryland 21155
Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day
April 11, 2021



Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness,
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn #369 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia" (Verses 1 & 4)

Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Contributors: Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt. Music: Robert Williams, 1781–1821 .Public Domain.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us,
enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35

A Reading from Acts.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Second Lesson: 1 John 1:1-2:2
A Reading from First John:

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. *Alleluia.* (John 20:29)

Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31

The Gospel from John.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon: "Community of Faith and Life"

Hymn of the Day # 666 "What Wondrous Love Is This" (Verses 1, 2 & 4)

**What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

**When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,**

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

**And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

Contributors: Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt. Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

You shower your church with grace, O God. Unite the whole church on earth, so that with one heart it testifies to the resurrection of Jesus Christ with power and love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You proclaim the blessing of life forevermore. Like dew upon the mountains, refresh your creation. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and provide revitalizing moisture to parched land. Give your whole creation the promise of new life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You direct the nations, O God. Guide all in authority, that they shepherd their peoples in the ways of your love. Defeat in us our impulse to war. Bestow the peace of Christ upon those in authority and breathe upon them the Holy Spirit. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You place within the heart of the church a spirit of sharing. Give us the power of your generous Spirit, that we provide for the needs of others. Announce your peace to those who are lonely, hurting, suffering, sick and afraid especially the names we speak aloud (*pause for quiet prayer*), in our hearts (*again pause...*) and those whose names fill the list of ongoing prayer concerns of this community of faith. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give us fellowship with one another in this faith community. Shine the light of the risen Christ in our life together, so that we live in love for one another, and our joy may be complete. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You share the gift of eternal life. In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives and gifts of those who live in endless joy. Unite us with them in resurrection hope. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

The Benediction

Sending Hymn # 367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resound" (Verses 1 & 4)

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**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!**

Contributors: Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt; Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.

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

Sending

**We Welcome All Our Visitors and
Friends to Our Worship Service Today**

We welcome all our visitors to our worship service - To all of you, we extend an invitation to return often, your presence is a blessing to us; we hope that soon we will be able to worship together again. Do come and be with us. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see or call Pastor Carl. All are welcomed to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion or to receive a blessing.

Please keep the following individuals in your prayers

Members: Mark, Calvin, Jen, Maidie, Vivian, Colton, Bud, Carolyn & John, Carliana, Shriver, Andy, Hannah, Denise, Glenys, Matthew, Nadine, Peter, Moore family, Neuheisel family, Gene, Katie, Carol, Leon, and all homebound members.

Family & Friends: Jerry, Bernie & Chris, Nunan Family, Mike, Darlene, Frank, Erin, Kary, Jim & Barbara, Kevin, Jack & Elinor, Liz, Heidi, Peggy, Laura, Bruce & Jamie, Karen, Caroline, Sonia, Addison, Ashlee, Maverick, Pat, Wade, Katie, Margaret, Danny, Gwyneth, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

Please continue to make your weekly offering if you are able

Our Second Offering for April is for Carroll Hospice. [Donate online via Tithe.ly](https://www.donateonlinevia.com). To send by mail: 15773 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155

Church News and Happenings

TODAY , SUNDAY, April 11th - Second Sunday of Easter

In-person Worship under the Pavilion at 9:00am
Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#) posted Sunday afternoon
In person Sunday School in the Pavilion at 10:30am
Confirmation Class will be held by Zoom at 7:00pm

TUESDAY, April 13th - Bible Study at 7pm via Zoom

SATURDAY, April 17th - Flea Market at 8:30am

SUNDAY, April 18th - Third Sunday of Easter

In-person Worship under the Pavilion at 9:00am
Virtual Worship via [SPC YouTube Channel](#) posted Sunday afternoon

Attendance, April 4th: YouTube Video – 30 views, In-person - 33