

Sunday, April 4, 2021— Easter Day/The Resurrection of Our Lord

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Join us for live streaming of our "Virtual Worship" service for the Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day from Centennial Hall on Sunday, April 4 at 9:15 a.m. If you are unable to join us at that time, be welcome to access the service at your convenience via Trinity's YouTube channel. Instructions for that access are below.

Trinity is live streaming worship — how do I find it?

We are streaming our 9:15 a.m. "Virtual Worship" service on YouTube. To find it, do the following:

- Follow the home page link to "Virtual Worship" on Trinity's website, select "video" and you will be connected to the stream.

OR

- Go to YouTube, either by opening the app on your phone or by visiting the webpage on your computer.
- Search for 'Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids.' The first option should be one with a picture of our cross tower (that is our channel).
- When you click on it you will be brought to our channel. If the service is live (from about 9:10 to 10:20 a.m. on Sunday morning) there will be a video with 'Live Now' on it.
- Simply click on the video and you will be connected to the stream.
- We also save past services in a play list called 'Rejoice Worship,' so you can view a past worship service at any time.

If you have a YouTube account please subscribe to the channel. This will allow our videos to show up in your video feed and when we reach enough subscriptions allow us to change our YouTube url.

Prayer of the Day for Easter Day / The Resurrection of Our Lord

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.

Prayer for Health Care Providers

Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us. Strengthen those who work among the sick; give them courage and confidence in all they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power even to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for Trinity members Emily Albaitis, Fran Anderson, Deb Bambini and family, George Bauer, Jim and Sue Boyse and family, Pat Bruin, Judy Cisler, Barb and Bob Crossman and family, Mike Danielski, Jack Danielson, John Derbin, Diane Field, Mary Frick, Jack Greiner, Elena Griewahn, Adam Guigue, Craig Gunderson, Mark Hahn, John Hall, Ruth Helzer, Jerry Hendricks, Sid and Carrie Hoeksema and family, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Austin, Meredith and Theodore Johnson, Patricia Johnson, Christopher Keller, Susan Knoll, Jen Knowles, Joni Korb, Roy Lamprich, Greg Law, Marilyn Leese, Jane Legualt, Judy Mallen, Jessica Marks and Patti Patton and their families, Roger Marks, Mark and Rebecca Mattison and family, Jill McKinney, Marilyn Mellema, Johnny Mielock, John and Karin Moglia and family, Christophe and Benita Muganza, Kenny Muganza, Michael Mulligan, Tim Neilson, Tadas Norris, Jacqueline Riegling, Lynn Rose, Petra Rotzell and family, Thiago Saliba, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Vince Schumacher, Jim Searfoss, Joan Sellman, Neil and Sue Sandler and family, Matt and Kara Seyffert and family, Michael Smith, David and Mary Smoes and family, Joyce Snyder, Courtney Steketee and family, Gary and Pat Stevens and family, Shirley Tedford, Jeremiah (JD) Thamban, Joanna Waite, John Walls, Fred Wilcox, Eric Wollen, Peyton Wollen, Rick and Michelle Wolner, Mark Youngren, and Kathryn Zielinski.

Easter Day/The Resurrection of Our Lord April 4, 2021

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

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."

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

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.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

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.

A brief silence.

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news wherever death holds sway. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for sister congregations! We pray for Pastor Scott Torkko and the people of Zion Lutheran Church in Cadillac, synod partners with us in mission and ministry. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the pursuit of interfaith understanding! We pray that we may come to cherish our commonalities with people of other faiths, including our three "Standing Together" partner congregations here in Grand Rapids, Masjid At-Tawheed, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Temple Emanuel. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring it to blossom and flourish; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill the nations with your peace. Draw together people of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve, including those we name now in our hearts (*a brief silence*). Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. Multiply that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your faithfulness revealed in the resurrection! Fill us with trust, that we join with all who have gone before us in proclaiming: "your mercy endures forever!" Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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.



APRIL 4, 2021
EASTER SUNDAY



The resurrected Jesus is with us, alleluia!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	The tomb is empty
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	God shows no partiality
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Christ died for our sins
Wednesday	John 21:1-18	Jesus is risen
Thursday	John 11:1-27	Jesus is the resurrection
Friday	Matthew 28:1-20	The resurrection of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	Give thanks to the Lord
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Come and see and believe

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalms 118:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of resurrection hope, overcome our fears and gladden our hearts, for you are near with saving grace through Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.

Mealtime Prayer:

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever! Amen. Alleluia.
(Psalm 118:1) (Traditional prayer for ending a meal)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus Christ be your strength and your salvation. (Psalm 118:14)



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APRIL 4, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What event have you experienced that left you speechless?
- What do you think it was like for Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James to stand before an angel at the empty tomb and receive awesome yet unbelievable news?
- The women left the tomb and said nothing to anyone. Why do you think they were afraid?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Mark 16:1-8.

Which is harder to believe: that Jesus rose from the dead or that the Gospel of Mark ends with the words, "they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid"? In fact, later Scripture text copiers were so dismayed by the original ending that they added more verses. It just didn't make sense that the original text seemed so bleak. Instead of saying to the world, "Christ is risen, alleluia," they leave committed to say nothing for they were afraid. Perhaps part of the Gospel message is the realization that our human frailty will always get in the way. What is evident is that the message did get out. We are reflecting on that message now. In the midst of human frailty and failures what we celebrate on Easter Sunday is that God wins and continues to win by delivering on God's promises no matter what. Alleluia, we as Jesus' followers have a ministry to do for the world because Jesus rose from the dead. Yes, we may be imperfect workers, but the promise still holds true and we still have good news to tell the world. Alleluia, Jesus has been raised, is loose in the world, and is out ahead of us now. "[Jesus] is going ahead of you to [name your own destination]; there you will see him, just as he told you" (v. 7). How does knowing that Jesus goes ahead of you wherever you go impact your life as a follower?

Pray: **God of glory and might, we give you thanks for the resurrected Christ who walks with us daily. Amen. Alleluia.**

SERVICE



There are many people who serve others and work on Easter Sunday in such places as in hospitals, nursing homes, police and fire stations, and restaurants. Is there a way you can share Easter resurrection cheer with those who are working?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Easter Day is full of church and family traditions to enrich our lives of faith. One tradition is to shout out and sing alleluias after its absence during the season of Lent. Alleluia means "praise the Lord." Begin each day this week with the words, "Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed. Alleluia." If others are present, say these words together with a high-five.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

2021 Easter Flower Dedications

In Loving Memory

In loving memory of Bill and Carole Baker and Tom and Evelyn Overholt, given by Mark and Kris Baker

In loving memory of Kelly Beld, given by Ken, Jillian, Jacob, and Ryan Beld

In loving memory of Kelly Beld, given by Kim, Mike, Andrew, Alex and Nicklas Birkle

In loving memory of loved ones, given by Larry and Diane Biser

In loving memory of our parents, given by Ken and Bev Block

In loving memory of all the saints who have gone before me, given by Angela Davis

In loving memory of fathers John Kaiser and Al Engle, given by Chris and Kim Engle

In loving memory of Christi Knutson, given by Donna Erickson and Galen Knutson

In loving memory of Tom and Nanette Held, and Jack and Jeanne Hagenbush, given by John and Lynn Hagenbush

In loving memory of Ellen Haneline, Schuyler and Patricia Pardee, Patricia Williams, and Robert Youngren, given by Doug and Melissa Haneline, Joellen and Beth Haneline, and Phillip Youngman

In loving memory of David C. Hansen, given by David's family—Joan, Scott, Barb and Chad

In loving memory of our daughter, Kirsten Heacock, given by Steve and Brenda Heacock

In loving memory of Roman and Margaret Douglas, Ruth and John Humphreys, given by Jan Jacobson

In loving memory of Marilee Mead, given by Jim, Kathryn, and Meredith

In loving memory of Alice Anderson, Jake Francis, Harold Koetje, Jack and Jetts Baas, and Joy Huttar, given by Phil and Carrie Lamb

In loving memory of Marcene Linstrom, Ruth Johnson and Philip Johnson, given by Pastor Bob and Rebecca Linstrom

In loving memory of Bob and Doug Mellema, given by Marilyn and family

In loving memory of my husband, David, and parents Arthur and Lillian and Howard and Margaret, given by Marjorie Paul

In loving memory of Ralph Schenk, given by Joyce Schenk

In loving memory of Bob, Jean, and Vince, given by Kelly Smith

In loving memory of the Johnson family—Lee, Hulda, Mark and Marcia, given by Dale and Kathy Sommers

In loving memory of our daughter/sister Keely Marie Stephan, given by Steve, Amy, Charlotte, and Isaac Stephan

In loving memory of Doug Williams, given by Andrea and Robert Williams

In loving memory of Kelly Beld, given by Dave and Kathy Young

In loving memory of Kelly Beld, given by Dana, Erin, Morgan and Latham Young

In Honor

In honor of our children Sheri, Randy, Laura & Karla, given by Ken and Bev Block

In honor of Shadrach and Gladys Peter, Mission Partners in India, given by Doug and Dawn Brackmann

In honor of my five siblings Jack, Kerry, Randy, Sherry and Ken and the rest of my immediate family, given by Angela Davis

In honor of mothers Mary Jo Peterson and Ann Engle, given by the Chris and Kim Engle

In honor of the kids who call me Grandma, given by Linda Taffs