

OUR PATH OF WORSHIP

Easter 3 – April 16 & 19, 2026

SERVICE THEME: Jesus Lives to Restore My Hope

Liturgy: Setting 2

HYMN 455 ♪ Alleluia! Jesus Lives

- 1 Alleluia! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One;
from the gloomy house of death forth the conqueror has gone,
bright forerunner to the skies of his people, yet to rise.
- 2 Jesus lives! Let all rejoice; praise him, ransomed ones of earth.
Praise him in a nobler song, cherubim of heav'nly birth.
Praise the Victor-King, whose sway sin and death and hell obey.
- 3 Jesus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and frequent sigh?
He who died our brother here lives our brother still on high,
lives forever to bestow blessings on his Church below.
- 4 Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours eternally;
joined to him, your living head, where he is, you too shall be;
you with him at his right hand victor over death shall stand.

Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Public domain

STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**
 we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.
We have done those things that we should not have done,
 and we have not done those things that we should have done.
Have mercy on us, Lord!
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
 according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the sure hope that we have because Christ lives, let us pray to the Lord.

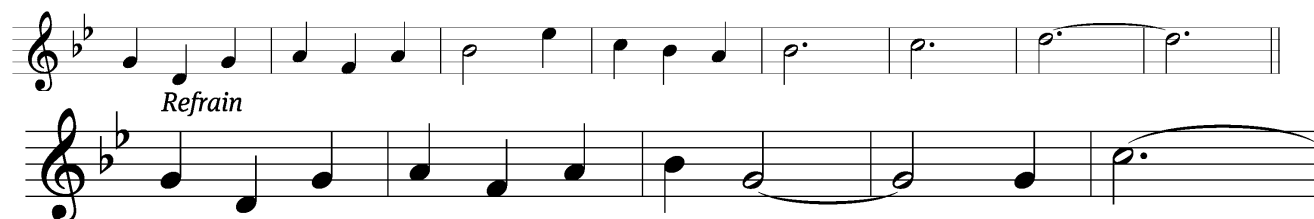
C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

CW 176



C: ♪ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to his peo - ple on earth.

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THE WORD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BE SEATED

FIRST READING – Acts 2:14a,32–41

“Hope to Those who are Cut to the Heart”

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

³²“God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, ‘The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand ³⁵until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’” ³⁶Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – 1 Peter 1:17–21

“Our Faith and Hope are in God”

¹⁷Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 24:32



Refrain



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

M: Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?

Refrain

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GOSPEL – Luke 24:13–35

“The Risen Jesus Restores Hope”

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

¹⁹“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

²⁵He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he

disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

³³They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN 783  **Abide with Me**

sts. 1-5

- 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.**
- 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**
- 3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
but kind and good, with healing in thy wings,
tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea;
come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.**
- 4 Thou on my head in early youth didst smile,
and though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
thou hast not left me oft as I left thee;
on to the close, O Lord, abide with me.**
- 5 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!**

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Text: Public domain

SERMON TEXT – Luke 24:13–35 (See the Gospel)

SERMON THEME – “Stay with Us, Lord”

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

BE SEATED

WELS CONNECTION

OFFERING Please fill out the Friendship Register.

After the offering is collected, please stand and sing...

OFFERING HYMN 464 ♪ I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again

st. 2

**2 I am content! My Jesus is my head; his member I will be.
He bowed his head when on the cross he died with cries of agony.
Now death is brought into subjection for me by Jesus' resurrection.
I am content! I am content!**

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind.

[Special prayers and intercessions may follow]

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

[Silent prayer]

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb, who has also taught us to pray ...

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.

BE SEATED

HYMN 924 ♪ Abide, O Dearest Jesus

sts. 3-5

**3 Abide with heav'nly brightness among us, precious Light;
your truth direct and keep us from error's gloomy night.**

**4 Abide with richest blessings among us, bounteous Lord;
let us in grace and wisdom grow daily through your Word.**

**5 Abide with your protection among us, Lord, our strength,
lest world and Satan fell us and overcome at length.**

*Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–
1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–
1923, alt: Public domain*

STAND

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

HYMN 783 🎵 **Abide with Me**

sts. 6-7

**6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if thou abide with me.**

**7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Text: Public domain

Preacher: Pastor Ben Golisch — Accompanist: Rebecca Hein-Piontek

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