

<u>Complete Worship Folder</u> April 16, 2023 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. April 19, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road Saginaw, MI 48609 (989)781-2170 Email address: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net Julie Bailey, Pastor Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am Wednesday Worship 7:00pm Welcome and Announcements

Hymn: "Because He Lives" (CCLI 16880) (video)

God sent His Son they called Him Jesus He came to love heal and forgive He bled and died to buy my pardon An empty grave is there to prove My Savior lives

Chorus Because He lives I can face tomorrow

Because He lives all fear is gone Because I know He holds the future

And life is worth the living

Just because He lives

How sweet to hold our newborn baby And feel the pride and joy he gives But greater still the calm assurance This child can face uncertain days Because Christ lives *Chorus*

And then one day I'll cross that river I'll fight life's final war with pain And then as death gives way to vict'ry I'll see the lights of glory And I'll know He reigns *Chorus*

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' ²⁹"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us

to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: "Open Our Eyes Lord" (CCLI 1572) (video)

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him
Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

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.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "We Walk by Faith" (ELW 635) (video)

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:

For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine: beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Hear us, O God,

Congregation responds...Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (ELW 674 verse 1 and refrain) (video)

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,

pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Offering Prayer

A: Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving

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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

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.

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

Communion Songs: "I Received the Living God" (ELW 477) (video)

Refrain I received the living God,

and my heart is full of joy. I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

Jesus said: I am the bread, kneaded long to give you life; you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. *Refrain*

Jesus said: I am the way, and my Father longs for you; so I come to bring you home to be one with us anew. *Refrain*

Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me. You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. *Refrain*

Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow, but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. *Refrain*

"Come, Let Us Eat" (ELW 491) (video)

Leader	(Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,)
All	come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Leader	(Our Lord's body let us take together,)
All	our Lord's body let us take together.

Leader	(Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,)
All	come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Leader	(Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,)
All	Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

Leader	(In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,)
All	in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
Leader	(In the presence of our Lord we gather,)
All	in the presence of our Lord we gather.

Leader	(Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,)
All	rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Leader	(Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,)

All Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

"Oh How He Love You And Me" (CCLI 15850) (video)

Verse 1 Verse 2

Oh how He loves you and me
Oh how He loves you and me
His love for sinners to show

He gave His life What He did there

What more could He give Brought hope from despair Oh how He loves you Oh how He loves me Brought hope from despair Oh how He loves you Oh how He loves me

Oh how He loves you and me Oh how He loves you and me

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

Blessing

P: The God of all, who raised \pm Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "Victory in Jesus" (CCLI 1259) (video)

Verse 1
I heard an old old story
How a Savior came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory Chorus

Verse 2
I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see
And then I cried dear Jesus
Come and heal my broken spirit
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory Chorus

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

Verse 3

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory *Chorus*

Dismissal

A: As an open and progressive congregation,

C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C: Thanks be to God.

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