**April 9th, 2023 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day – Email/At Home Missal**

**ZOOM INFORMATION:**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on April 2nd, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship April 2nd, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144723429?pwd=bDM1S2Q5ZVY3eGxhdlhuWG9UOHIvUT09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144723429?pwd=bDM1S2Q5ZVY3eGxhdlhuWG9UOHIvUT09)

**Meeting ID: 861 4472 3429 Passcode: 701596**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+17789072071,,86144723429#,,,,\*701596# Canada**

**+17806660144,,86144723429#,,,,\*701596# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 861 4472 3429 Passcode: 701596**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHrnL3MpQ**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHrnL3MpQ) **.....................................
PASTORAL VISITS:** Pastor Laura Sauder is available for safe visits with social distancing requirements in place, and also for telephone visits. Please reach out to her by calling the church office at 519-653-4721 to arrange a visit.

**…………………………….**

**Here is the YouTube link for the sermon from this past Sunday’s (April 2nd) service:** [**https://youtu.be/qRYNEo5GROc**](https://youtu.be/qRYNEo5GROc)

**……………………………**

**Bible Study will be in the Art Room on Mondays at 3:00PM.**

**Please join us – all are welcome!**

**…………………………..**

You can order your own Maple Syrup from St. Peter’s, Preston. Our partner is a 5th generation Woolwich Township farm that has been producing maple syrup for over 100 years. They adhere to the production guidelines issued by the Ontario Maple Syrup Association, which state the number of taps per tree (max. of 2) for best forest management practices. Handling of the sap and syrup is minimized to reduce the chance of contamination. Their syrup is pure with nothing added, only the water has been removed. As of 2018 their maple syrup is certified organic.

**1 litre Mason Jars of maple syrup are $23.00**.

**Send an email to or** **alexblack@sympatico.ca** **to order your own locally produced fresh Maple Syrup.**

**……………………………….**

**Greenhorizons BigYellowBag - Give & Grow Program**

This fundraiser is open to all and enables each one of us to raise funds for St. Peters. If you don’t have a lawn or garden, you can still help by spreading the word to your neighbours, friends and relatives.

Each time that an order is placed at Greenhorizons Sod at 519.653.7494 for a **BigYellowBag** of soil using the **code SPLCC23** you will save $5.00, and the church will receive $10.00.

Spread the word, and the soil!​

**………………………………..**

**Community of Faith Gathering**

**All ages are welcome to this mid-week**

**plug-in and power-up your faith event.**

The Preston neighbourhood churches will offer this mid-week program once a month.

Each month the event will be at a different Church.

**What happens at a “Power-Up” evening?**

**\*Fellowship, \*Fun, \*Faith, \*Food (and Free)**

We will begin the evening with a Bible story told through storytelling, a play, or puppetry, and sing some songs.

We will eat together with food provided by the hosting Church.

We will conclude the evening with crafts and activities.

**When: April 12, 5:30pm-7:30pm**

**Where: Trillium United Church, 450 King St. E. Cambridge**

Contact Heather Margerison (children and youth pastor) @ (519)-653-6601 ext.3 for more information

**………………………….**

**April Lamplighters are now available!
……………………………**

**Yard Sale** - Tentative dates are July 7 and 8, 2023. We’re looking for good, gently used, clean items of all kinds, and clothing. Please – no very large mirrors, no complete dining room suites, no large old television sets. If you’re unsure of whether what you have is suitable or not, leave a message at the church office. So – start your spring clear out and think of St. Peter’s. We’d love to re-purpose your goods and make a new owner happy. Items may be dropped off at church; just let us know when we can meet with you.

**………………………………….**

**Today we welcome back Gregory Stroh (flute) to enliven our Easter gathering of praise and thanksgiving. Thank you Gregory!**

**…………………………………**

1. **Addison’s Women’s Choir – 40th Anniversary Concert**
2. **Here’s to Song**
3. Saturday, May 6, 2023
4. Special Guests: Siobhan Kerr, Harpist,
5. Cambridge Male Chorus, AWC Alumni & Past
6. Marantha Christian Reformed Church, 94 Elgin Street, South, Cambridge
7. Tickets: Adults $15.00 (under 12 free)
8. **To place an order, please telephone Barbara Berg at 519-653-0885, or by email at** **bergsnest@bell.net**

**…………………………..**

**Bridges VBS 2023 Knights of North Castle** - Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God’s power! Application Forms are located in the narthex or by calling the church office at 519-653-4721. Dates: July 10-14, 2023, 9:00am – 4:00 pm Children who are between the ages of 5 and 11 (as of December 31, 2023). Registration fee of $125/participant (including lunch & snacks) is due upon registration. Please make cheques payable to Bridges VBS (please note child’s name on cheque, post-dated cheques will not be accepted). As this camp is running at cost, tax receipts will not be issued and registration fees are non-refundable. Registration closes June 1st, or when spaces are filled. Location: St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church (317 Franklin St. N, Kitchener). We are extremely grateful to St. Luke's for hosting us and can't wait to be in this great space. This week long VBS is run solely by volunteers, both youth and adult. There are many volunteer opportunities that cover a wide range of skill, as well as a variety of time commitments. [bridgesvbs.weebly.com](http://bridgesvbs.weebly.com/)

**…………………………..**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

**Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Guest Musician: Gregory Stroh (flute)**

**Unboxing the Alleluia**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

***C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!***

**Land Acknowledgement:**

***A: With thankful hearts we acknowledge that the land upon which we live and worship here at St Peter’s is the treaty land of the Six Nations, comprising in part the territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral Peoples. This land is covered by treaties such as the Dish with One Spoon Treaty, the Two Row Wampum Treaty and the Haldimand Treaty of 1784. As we continue to learn more about the truth of our shared history, we desire to grow in Peace, Friendship and Respect, leading ultimately to true reconciliation.***

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 365 ‘Jesus Christ Is Risen Today’**

1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!

 our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

 who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

 suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

 unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!

 who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

 sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!

 our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

 now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!

 where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

 praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!

 praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!

 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

*(Title: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today; Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4; Public Domain; Music:* *J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting:**

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*:***

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in us the risen life we share with Christ. Help us grow toward the fullness of eternal life with you. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.\***

**Lesson Introduction: *(Pastor Laura)***

**Jeremiah 31:1-6**

On Easter Sunday, our focus is naturally and rightly on Jesus. And yet, it’s good to also hear a word of hope and promise that predated Jesus’ resurrection by some 6 centuries.

Jeremiah lived and prophesied during the time of the Babylonian invasion of Judah; when many of the people were taken away into exile and didn’t know when or if they would ever be able to return home again. To these exiles, Jeremiah speaks a beautiful word of hope and promise. God’s love for them is everlasting; and they can trust that God will be ever faithful to them. Let us listen to the word…

**The First Reading: Jeremiah 31:1-6**

At that time, declares the Lord,
    I will be the God of all the families of Israel,
        and they will be my people.

The Lord proclaims:
The people who survived the sword
    found grace in the wilderness.
As Israel searched for a place of rest,
    the Lord appeared to them from a distance:
I have loved you with a love that lasts forever.
    And so with unfailing love,
        I have drawn you to myself.
Again, I will build you up,
    and you will be rebuilt, virgin Israel.
Again, you will play your tambourines
    and dance with joy.
Again, you will plant vineyards
    on the hills of Samaria;
    farmers will plant and then enjoy the harvests.
The time will come when
    the watchmen shout from
        the highlands of Ephraim:
“Get ready! We’re going up to Zion
    to the Lord our God!”  *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life. ***C: Thanks be to God.\****

**Choir Anthem**

**Lesson Introduction *(Pastor Laura)*Acts 10:34-43**Our first reading took us back in the timeline from Jesus’ resurrection, and now this second one takes us ahead. We hear a sermon from Peter, Jesus’ close friend and disciple, who offers his understanding of what Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection means for him and for us. It’s helpful to know that he’s had some time and distance now to think these things through. This sermon having been preached several years after Jesus has risen from the dead. Let us listen to the word…

**The Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43**

Peter said, “I really am learning that God doesn’t show partiality to one group of people over another. Rather, in every nation, whoever worships him and does what is right is acceptable to him. This is the message of peace he sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all! You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life. ***C: Thanks be to God.\****

**Gospel Acclamation from Setting 4 *(ELW page # 151)***

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia\*

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**The Holy Gospel according to John 20:1-18**

***C: Glory to you, O Lord.***

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they’ve put him.”Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn’t go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus’ head. It wasn’t with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. They didn’t yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. The angels asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

She replied, “They have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they’ve put him.” As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn’t know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabbouni” which means *Teacher*.

Jesus said to her, “Don’t hold on to me, for I haven’t yet gone up to my Father.

Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, ‘I’m going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, “I’ve seen the Lord.” Then she told them what he said to her. *(CEB)*

The Gospel of the Lord. ***C: Praise to you, O Christ.\****

**Sermon**

**Blessed Are Those Who Hope Still (John 20:1-18)**

Early in the morning, while it was still dark, Mary makes her way to visit Jesus’ resting place. John, the gospel writer, doesn’t tell us why Mary was up so early that morning, but we can imagine why she might have been.

How many of us here have had those sleepless nights? Nights when we wake up and can’t fall back asleep because our minds are spinning; because we’re overwhelmed by difficult emotions; overwhelmed by something that feels like too much.

And in those moments, how many of us have gotten up out of bed, in the wee hours of the morning, because we needed to do something; anything, to distract ourselves from the painful thoughts and difficult emotions that won’t let us sleep.

The story doesn’t say so, but this is what I imagine might have been going on for Mary.

It’s only been two nights since the horrors of Good Friday. She can’t sleep, so in the wee hours of the morning she makes her way to Jesus’ tomb. Perhaps she was planning to sit there for a while, maybe pray a little, cry a little, walk around until morning breaks when she can go back home to some company.

But any plans she may have had go out the window when she arrives at the tomb. The stone that was guarding the entrance to the tomb has been moved. Assuming Jesus’ body has been taken away, in shock and horror, she runs to tell the others.

Peter and the one our gospel writer calls the ‘beloved disciple’ race to the tomb to check things out, but they don’t stick around long. They leave poor Mary standing there alone, weeping, outside the empty tomb.

Alone again, she peers inside the tomb. She is taken aback to see that the tomb is now not in fact empty. There are two angels sitting where Jesus’ body should be. And then, she hears someone come up behind her. Mary turns to see a man; who to her looks like the gardener. For who else would be around at this hour of the morning? But then he speaks her name. Instantly there is recognition. Mary knows that this man she thought was the gardener is in fact Jesus, her teacher, her friend, her saviour. While it is yet still dark, her hope is renewed and restored.

This week we have journeyed with Jesus from the cross to the empty tomb. Today is a day of joy and celebration for we now know that the one who was dead has indeed been raised back to life. But the hard part of this story is that Jesus’ rising from the dead doesn’t mean that all is suddenly right with the world. Jesus’ resurrection from the dead didn’t suddenly do away with evil or inequality or injustice or suffering or pain. Just turn on the tv, listen to the radio, or pull up the news app on your phone. We know well that in spite of the resurrection, these things are still a part of the fabric of life.

So what then, is the hope and the promise of the resurrection? What is it that today we are so glad about? Throughout the season of Lent we heard the promise that:

“In our imperfections, God calls us good.

In our curiosity, God surprises us.

In our suffering, God teaches us how to hope.

In our loneliness, God seeks us and finds us and welcomes us home.

In our mourning, God weeps with us and comforts us.”1

And today we hear the promise that while it is yet dark, the risen Jesus meets us and speaks our name. As with Mary, he comes to us and calls to us, promising that there is goodness and abundance and life for us too, even when it feels impossible that this could be true.

Easter is the promise that death doesn’t get the last word. Even when there seems to be so much evidence to the contrary, we take heart in the promise that the risen Christ came to Mary while it was still dark. And that Christ can and will do the same for us.

This is what we are talking about when we talk about “Easter hope.” It isn’t looking at the world with rose-coloured glasses or a false kind of optimism. Easter hope is trusting that Christ meets us while it is yet dark. Easter hope is a hope that breaks into the dark and bleak places, refusing to let sin and death have the last word.

On this Easter morn we proclaim: Blessed are we who hope still. We, who understand that despite all the evidence to the contrary, death does not win. For blessed are we who boldly and defiantly say Alleluia! Even while it is yet dark. AMEN.

1 Kate Bowler. “Bless The Lent We Actually Have: Sermon Guide” page 24

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 364 ‘Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia’**

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.

 Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

 For our redeemer burst from the tomb,

 even from death, dispelling its gloom.

***Refrain***

 ***Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.***

 ***Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.***

 ***Our sin forgiving, alleluia!***

 ***Jesus is living, alleluia!***

2 For three long days the grave did its worst

 until its strength by God was dispersed.

 He who gives life did death undergo,

 and in its conquest his might did show. ***Refrain***

3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.

 You look for Jesus who is not here.

 See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.

 Only the graveclothes are lying there." ***Refrain***

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.

 He has arisen this world to save.

 Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

 Even the battle with sin is won." ***Refrain***

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.

 Alleluia, to him praises be.

 Jesus is living! Let us all sing;

 he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. ***Refrain***

*(Title: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia; Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922; Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved; Used by permission. Music:* *Tanzanian traditional; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You call your church to witness to your salvation. We give thanks for all who proclaim your gospel. Equip us to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

You bring abundant life throughout creation. The green blade rises, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

You show your steadfast love without regard to borders, barriers, or human-made divisions. Infuse your justice in every nation of the world that all experience the peace that only you can give. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized (Especially we pray for Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Bryan, Nansea, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Creena, Shirley, Maya, Karen, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Lena, Brian, John, Anne, Pastor Neil, Robin, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts….. ). And we pray for all health care workers who care for them. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:** (Pastor to read)

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**\*

**Our worship continues with the offering of our gifts.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Music: ACS # 968 ‘Feed Us with Hunger for Justice’**

 Feed us with hunger for justice.

 Feed us with thirst for peace.

*(Title: Feed us with Hunger for Justice; Text & Music:* *Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960; Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**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.

**Amen.\***

**You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.**

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/9xBMp4ElkcM**](https://youtu.be/9xBMp4ElkcM)

**Great Thanksgiving: ELW Setting 4: ‘Dialogue…’ *(page 152)***

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you. (Sung)**

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

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

**ELW Setting 4:** ‘Preface…’ *(Easter)*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 4: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 153) (sung)***

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,***

***Lord God of pow’r and might:***

***Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he died,

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s good gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW # 531 ‘The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing’**

1 The trumpets sound, the angels sing

 The feast is ready to begin

 The gates of heaven are open wide

 And Jesus welcomes you inside

***Refrain***

***Sing with thankfulness
Songs of pure delight
Come and revel in
Heaven's love and light
Take your place at the
Table of the King
The feast is ready to begin
The feast is ready to begin***

2 Tables are laden with good things

 Oh, taste the peace and joy he brings

 He’ll fill you up with love divine

 He’ll turn your water into wine ***Refrain***

3 The hungry heart he satisfies

 Offers the poor his paradise

 Now hear all heaven and earth applaud

 The amazing goodness of the Lord. ***Refrain***

*(Title: The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing (The Feast Is Ready) Text & Music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Text & Music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere. All rights reserved. ASCAP; All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under CCLI, License # 11098609. All rights reserved.)*

**ELW # 474 ‘Bread of Life from Heaven’**

***Refrain***

***Bread of life from heaven,***

***your blood and body given,***

***we eat this bread and drink this cup***

***until you come again.***

1. Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;

giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.

Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;

in Christ's presence the loaves will abound. ***Refrain***

2. Seek not the food that will pass away;

set your hearts on the food that endures.

Come, learn the true and the living way,

that the fullness of life may be yours. ***Refrain***

3. Love as the one who, in love for you,

gave himself for the life of the world.

Come to the one who is food for you,

that your hunger and thirst be no more. ***Refrain***

4. Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;

make your home in the lifegiving Word.

Know only Christ, Holy One of God,

and believe in the truth you have heard. ***Refrain***

5. Drink of this cup and declare his death;

eat this bread and believe Easter morn;

trust his return and, with ev'ry breath,

praise the one in whom you are reborn.***Refrain***

*(Title: Bread of Life from Heaven; Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952; Text © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.* [*www.giamusic.com*](http://www.giamusic.com)*. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas; Music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.* [*www.giamusic.com*](http://www.giamusic.com)*. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: 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.

Amen.\*

**Blessing:**

God, on that first Easter morning

while it was still dark,

one woman went alone to the tomb

to do what could be done to honor you,

though hope had drained away.

Two bright angels met her there, and then –

how is it possible? –

you were there. fully alive, beyond belief.

Blessed are we who stretch out our hands to you

in doubt and grief,

in sickness of body and mind and spirit,

our prayers not fully realized,

rejoicing… anyway.

For that is what makes us Easter people:

carrying forth the realized hope of the

Resurrected One,

singing our alleluias great and small,

while it is still dark.

Amen.\*\*

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 376 ‘Thine Is the Glory’**

1 Thine is the glory,

 risen, conqu'ring Son;

 endless is the vict'ry

 thou o'er death hast won!

 Angels in bright raiment

 rolled the stone away,

 kept the folded grave-clothes

 where thy body lay.

**Refrain**

 **Thine is the glory,**

 **risen, conqu'ring Son;**

 **endless is the vict'ry**

 **thou o'er death hast won!**

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,

 risen from the tomb!

 Lovingly he greets thee,

 scatters fear and gloom;

 let his church with gladness

 hymns of triumph sing,

 for the Lord now liveth;

 death hath lost its sting! **Refrain**

3 No more we doubt thee,

 glorious Prince of life;

 life is naught without thee;

 aid us in our strife;

 make us more than conqu'rors,

 through thy deathless love;

 bring us safe through Jordan

 to thy home above. **Refrain**

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**Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**C: Thanks be to God.\***

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