**March 31, 2024 – Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 09.30 am on March 31, 2024, can be found here:**

**Worship March 31, 2024 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84066302102?pwd=ZEQ1V0dhRzRoMUZrcDBlMXF3STJWZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84066302102?pwd=ZEQ1V0dhRzRoMUZrcDBlMXF3STJWZz09)

**Meeting ID: 840 6630 2102 Passcode: 541916**

**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:**

**+14388097799,,84066302102#,,,,\*541916# Canada;**

**+15873281099,,84066302102#,,,,\*541916# 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: 840 6630 2102 Passcode: 541916**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kMO4FqjTt**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kMO4FqjTt)

**……………………………………….**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31st, 2024 –APRIL 7th, 2024:**

**You will find the video for March 24th, 2024, at the following YouTube link:**

[**https://youtu.be/T-O7usoGp4g**](https://youtu.be/T-O7usoGp4g)

**……………………………………….**

**Announcements: Coming Events** *(save these dates)* ***bold print - events being held here at St. Peter’s***

1. **Apr. 3 Weekly Bible Study** *(see below for further details)*
2. **Apr. 3 Praying the Catechism** *(see below for further details)*
3. Apr. 5-7 Bishop’s spiritual Retreat for Lay Persons *(see below for further details)*

**Apr. 11 Prayer Encounters: The Labyrinth** *(see below for further details)*

Apr. 16 Public Lecture– *(see below for further details)*

Aug. 11-23 Ontario Mennonite Music Camp *(see below for further details)*

**The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of March 31 – April 7, 2024**

1. Monday
2. Tuesday 7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*
3. **Wednesday 10:30 am Weekly Bible Study *(Art Room)***
4. **7:00 pm Praying the Catechism *(via zoom)***
5. Thursday
6. Friday
7. Saturday

**Sunday**   **10:00 am Worship Service** – A passage from **Acts 1:1-14** *(‘You shall be my witnesses in*

 *Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth’)*

**……………………………………….**

**Pastoral Visit: Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.**

**……………………………………….**

1. **Prayer List: Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Jeff, Aaron, MacKenzie, Rhett, Jan Ken, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne, Sherri, Carol.**

**……………………………………….**

1. **Weekly Bible Study** **- Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Art Room. Everyone is welcome!**

**……………………………………….**

1. **“Praying the Catechism” – A season of intentional prayer for Lent & Easter - Wednesdays at 7PM on Zoom from February 21 to May 15. Join Pastor Laura on zoom each Wednesday for prayer, conversation and mutual support as we work our way through “Praying the Catechism” this Lenten and Easter seasons.**

**……………………………………….**

1. **It's Maple Syrup Time at St. Peter's. The Maple Syrup we supply is from a local 5th generation farm, producing Maple Syrup for over 100 years. Since 2018 all of our Maple Syrup is "Certified Organic."**
2. **"It's truly the best Maple Syrup I have ever tasted." Pastor Monika 1 litre Mason Jars are $24.00.**
3. **Please contact Alex Black or St. Peter's office to order 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, not a problem, 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 855-424-4224 for a BigYellowBag of soil using the code STPETERS24, you will save $5.00, and the church will receive $10.00. Spread the word, and the soil!**

**……………………………………….**

1. We need you to help feed our neighbourhood!The freedom Centre has joined with Cambridge Community Table to offer a meal to our community twice a month on Tuesday night. We need volunteers: Food Preparation, set up, take down, meet and Greet. Every hour you can give once or twice a month. Call for information 519-591-6518 or email rosemary@freedomcentre.ca.

**……………………………………….**

1. Move with Robert(Free Exercise Class Mondays 1 – 2 pm, YMCA Certified Fitness Instructor – Wear exercise shoes/bringwater/no registration required/ arrive by 12:45 pm – Trillium United Church, Cambridge)

**……………………………………….**

**Community Event - “Prayer Encounters: The Labyrinth” - Thursday, April 11 7:00-8:30PM at St Peter’s (810 King St E). Praying with the labyrinth is an ancient form of walking meditation. Join us to learn more about this practice from a Christian perspective. The evening will include:**

* **A short teaching**
* **The opportunity to walk a labyrinth using your feet or finger**
* **Make and take your own finger labyrinth**

**There is no cost to attend this workshop but we appreciate pre-registration if possible to ensure we have enough supplies. Call 519-653-4721. All are welcome! Please note, we are semi-accessible (chair lift).**

**……………………………………….**

1. April 16, 2024 Public Lecture – The Gospel of Peace (John Dear – Priest/Peace Activist/Author; Nonviolence in the tradition of Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. – No Charge (donations welcome); copies of ‘The Gospel of Peace’ will be available $25 (cash). All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church, 210 Silvercreek Parkway N. Guelph.

**……………………………………….**

1. Ontario Mennonite Music Camp is a place where youth in grade 6-12 develop and enrich relationships, faith, musicality, and leadership in a fun and supportive summer camp environment. Hosted at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo, August 11 to 23, 2024. Register by April 12 for early-bird camp fees. [uwaterloo.ca/grebel/ommc](https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/ommc)

**……………………………………….**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

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

**Assisting Minister: Barb Burden**

**Reader: Austin Dykstra**

**Welcome remarks**

**Call to Worship:**

P: Come — a new day has dawned,

***C: the first day of a new creation!***

P: Look up and see what God has done —

***C: the stone is rolled away, once and for all!***

P: Christ is going ahead of you

**C: and we must share the good news!\***

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 367 ‘Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds’**

1 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!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings,

 therefore our heart with rapture sings:

 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

 Now still he comes to give us life

 and by his presence stills all strife.

 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;

 set heart and will on things above

 that we conquer through your triumph;

 grant grace sufficient for life's day

 that by our lives we truly say:

 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 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!

 *(Title: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds; Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.; Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved, Used by permission. Music:* David N. Johnson, 1922-1987; *© 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**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.***

**Glory to God: ACS Setting 12: *(page 31) (sung)***

**1**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;**

**yours is the promise, the blessing, the birth.**

**Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame;**

**ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.**

**Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;**

**yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

**2**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;**

**yours the hosannas, the dying, rebirth.**

**Ours the rejoicing for nature reclaimed;**

**ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.**

**Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;**

**yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

**3**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;**

**yours the anointing, the radiant worth.**

**Ours the rejoicing for spirits aflame;**

**ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.**

**Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;**

**yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

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**Prayer of the Day:**

P: We wake this day to a new world, O God,

for you have changed everything:

Christ is alive!

We thank you for new light that shines,

and for messengers that explain when we can barely believe our eyes.

We take a deep breath, a pause to take it all in. …

We hardly know how to be grateful

for the impossible thing you have done.

We praise you for your power that rolled back the stone,

and for your grace that invites us all,

even when we have failed to live up to your vision.

You are already a step ahead, going before us into the world

and calling us to join you there.

We pray you would give us eager hearts and open eyes,

to look past our fear of the unknown

that in Christ’s resurrection we too may be raised

into the light of new life in your kingdom.

With mourning turning to dancing and joy overcoming despair,

we offer our praise,

for Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation: ACS Setting 12: *(page 33) (sung)***

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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**Reader:**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 16th chapter.

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

*May we be equipped by these words to walk in love for God, ourselves, our neighbours, all people, and all God’s creation.*

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus’ dead body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. They were saying to each other, “Who’s going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. And it was a very large stone! Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. But he said to them, “Don’t be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn’t here. Look, here’s the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you.” Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid. *(CEB)*

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

**Engaging with the Story**

**Mark 16:1-8 – “Sharing Good News”**

Endings matter. How a story ends makes a huge difference in how we feel about the whole thing. A good ending usually makes for a good story. And a good story with a bad ending can leave us feeling frustrated and unsatisfied.

One of the things that make for a good ending is whether acceptable answers have been provided to all the questions raised in the story. In other words, a good ending is one that ties up all the loose ends and doesn’t leave us hanging.

Now when it comes to Mark’s gospel, I think many of us would agree that his ending leaves us hanging.

“Overcome with terror and dread, the women fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.” THE END.

It leaves so many questions unanswered. How do we know Jesus really was raised from the dead? Can we just take the young man’s word for it? How did the story get out if the women didn’t tell anyone what happened?

If the ending of Mark’s gospel feels a little unfinished to you, know that you’re in good company. At some point, new endings were actually written Mark’s gospel (and if you go home and pull out your Bible you’ll probably see either one or both of these endings in your version).

In an attempt to “fix” Mark’s “bad ending” a short ending and a long ending were added at some point; both versions attempt to tie up some of those loose ends by describing how Jesus did in fact appear to the disciples and sent them out to continue his ministry and mission in the world.

These endings may make the story seem more complete, but Biblical scholars are confident that the original version of Mark’s gospel didn’t include these verses. So if Mark ended his story with verse 8 on purpose, the big question of course is why? Why leave us hanging? Why end the greatest story ever told with fear and silence?

Mark’s ending may not be as satisfying as Luke’s story about Jesus appearing to two disciples on the road to Emmaus; or John’s story about Jesus having a fish fry on the beach with the disciples. But the truth is, but Mark’s ending fits perfectly with his gospel.

And to see why it fits perfectly with his gospel we need to go back to the very beginning. When we go all the way back to the start of Mark’s gospel we see that Mark introduces his gospel in this way: “The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” (Mark 1:1)

Taken on its own it sounds like a pretty basic introduction – but when we put it side by side with what seems like the unfinished ending, I think we can see something else happening.

You see, for Mark, his entire gospel is just the beginning of the good news – and it doesn’t have an ending because the story is not over yet. Mark writes this open-ended gospel that threatens to end in failure precisely to place the burden of responsibility for telling the good news squarely on our shoulders. Mark shows us the empty tomb, tells us that Jesus is risen, and then leaves the rest up to us. It turns out, Mark isn't terrible at endings; he's actually kind of brilliant.

By ending his account the way he does, he invites us into the story. He invites us to pick up where these women left off. He invites us to be the ones who go and tell that Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has been raised, and is going ahead to meet us, just as he promised. Mark’s loose ends draw us into the greatest story ever told, inviting us to be the ones who share the good news of how God transformed death into life.

We are the ones called to share how the risen Christ has breathed hope and life and love into our hearts; to share how the gift of faith has made a difference in our lives; to share how Christ gives us strength when we’re feeling weary and worn and afraid; to speak a word of hope and life into dark and hurting places – to those who desperately need to hear it. To be Christ’s hands and feet, bringing compassion and understanding and generosity and kindness and equality to our communities and the world.

Like the women, this will at times make us feel frightened and overwhelmed. At times we won’t feel we have the words or the courage to do justice to this powerful truth. And yet, we are the ones; it’s been left to us. And the hard truth is, if we don’t do it, who will?

It’s an awesome and wondrous and holy calling we’ve been invited into. And we don’t do it alone. For one, we are all in this together. And more importantly, we go with the Risen Christ before us, behind us, within us, giving us the courage, the strength, the words, the love, the compassion to share this good news.

In this way, the story carries on.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 369 ‘Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!**

1 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!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!

 sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!

 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!

 now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!

 God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!

 when contending death and life, Alleluia!

 met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

4 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!

*(Title: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807-1882, alt. Public Domain*

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**Prayers of Intercession:**

Early in the morning the tomb is open and you are already on the way, risen Christ. We come looking for you, only to find you have gone ahead and called us to follow. We praise you for good news that cannot be contained, even by our fears or failures.

On this day of resurrection, we pray for a world desperate for a glimpse of your new life:

for those surrounded by violence, death, and destruction;

for those grieving and who cannot be consoled;

for those whose world has been turned upside down by the greed, power-mongering, or vengeance of others; *In your mercy…* ***C: Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer.\****

On this day of resurrection,

we pray for those who suffer as seas rise and deserts expand and weather patterns become unpredictable;

for those who have been overlooked and ignored, yet expected to perform essential work;

for those who are bound by fear of not being good enough.

*In your mercy…* ***C: Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer.\****

On this day of resurrection, we pray for all who long for your gifts of healing and wholeness. We pray especially for Avery, Ruth and each beloved child on our prayer list, and those people and places we name before you now aloud or silently in our hearts… *In your mercy…* ***C: Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer.\****

Roll back the stone, O God, once and for all, for you are the One who can overcome all barriers. Set your resurrection power loose in the world, in our lives, in our community, bringing justice and peace, comfort and joy, love stronger than death. Surprise us with your impossible grace, breaking down what we thought we knew and building up a new community of hope, always on the move toward your kingdom. *In your mercy…* ***C: Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer.\****

We ask in the name of the One who has been raised and who raises us to new life with him, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**Share the peace of Christ:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

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

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 481 ‘Come to the Table’**

Come to the table of mercy,

prepared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hungry and thirsty,

come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation;

receive from his nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation;

drink of the blood of the Lamb.

*(Title: Come to the Table; Text:* *Claire Cloninger, b. 1942; Text © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695; Juniper Landing Music (admin. Word Music); and Word Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

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**Offering Prayer:**

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.\*

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**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/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

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

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 12: ‘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 12: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 36 )***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of pow’r and God of might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he showed us the full extent of his love,

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 where all are fed and none go hungry. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good.

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 Setting 12: ‘Be Known to Us’ *(page 40) &***

 **ELW # 379 ‘Now the Green Blade Rises’**

**ELW Setting 12: ‘Be Known to Us’ *(page 40 )***

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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**ELW # 379 ‘Now the Green Blade Rises’**

1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,

 wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;

 love lives again, that with the dead has been;

 love is come again like wheat arising green.

2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,

 thinking that he would never wake again;

 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;

 love is come again like wheat arising green.

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,

 he that for three days in the grave had lain;

 raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;

 love is come again like wheat arising green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,

 your touch can call us back to life again,

 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

 love is come again like wheat arising green.

*(Title: Now the Green Blade Rises; Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958; Text from Oxford Book of Carols © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved; Used by permission. Music: French carol ; tune Public Domain; arr. © Oxford University Press ; 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: Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us

and nourished us with your love.

Send us forth from this banquet

to proclaim your goodness

and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,

our redeemer and friend.

Amen.\*

*\*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress.*

**Blessing:**

P: Jesus is going ahead of you —

and when you go out into God’s world with good news,

you will see him there, just as he told you.

So go with the love of the Creator,

in the power of the Spirit,

trusting Christ’s word, +

to live a resurrection life.

Amen.

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**Sending Hymn: ELW # 382 ‘Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!**

1 Christ is risen! Alleluia!

 Risen our victorious head!

 Sing his praises! Alleluia!

 Christ is risen from the dead!

 Gratefully our hearts adore him

 as his light once more appears;

 bowing down in joy before him,

 rising up from griefs and tears.

***Refrain***

 ***Christ is risen! Alleluia!***

 ***Risen our victorious head!***

 ***Sing his praises! Alleluia!***

 ***Christ is risen from the dead!***

2 Christ is risen! All the sadness

 of our Lenten fast is o'er;

 through the open gates of gladness

 he returns to life once more;

 death and hell before him bending

 see him rise, the victor now,

 angels on his steps attending,

 glory round his wounded brow. ***Refrain***

3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow

 that last evening round him lay

 now has found a glorious morrow

 in the rising of today.

 See the grave its firstfruits giving,

 springing up from holy ground;

 Christ was dead, but now is living;

he was lost, but he is found*.* ***Refrain***

4 Christ is risen! Henceforth never

 death or hell shall us enthrall.

 We are Christ's, in him forever

 we have triumphed over all.

 All the doubting and dejection

 of our trembling hearts have ceased;

 hail the day of resurrection!

 Let us rise and keep the feast. ***Refrain***

*(Title: Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.; Public Domain; Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927; Public Domain*

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**Dismissal:**

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.

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

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