

# Life Given through our Living Savior

April 27,  
2025



Second Sunday  
After Easter

**Welcome, guests!** We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be more than happy to assist you. This folder includes all the details about our services, with the congregational responses indicated by indented, bold letters. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; this will be used solely by the pastor and elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

**THE THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS:** Final preparation to be the risen Christ's witnesses begins with sight. The apostles were blessed with the ability to visibly see the risen Lord. Overcoming their doubts by the power of the Spirit, they would boldly proclaim the new life to be found in the Living One. Blessed to see through eyes of faith, the vision of the First and the Last fills our hearts with this confidence: "Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again." (CW 406)

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY:** O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE:** COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION – CW, Pg.15



# OPENING HYMN:

#160

THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

**\*\*Please Stand for The Last Verse\*\***



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and  
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the  
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill  
slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row.  
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er.  
Shall wake the dead in num - ber.

### Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three - day



pris - on, Our faith had been in vain: But



now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



ris - en; But now is Christ a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934.

Tune: VRUECHTEN (67 67 with Refrain) Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**LORD, HAVE MERCY**

*KYRIE*

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**GLORY BE TO GOD**

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.  
We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,  
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,  
God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
 sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
 you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,  
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

**FIRST LESSON:**

**GENESIS 15: 1 – 6**

*Fresh from the battle against the kings of the East, Abram has been blessed with full assurance that the Lord is his shield. Yet Abram longs to know the details of how the Lord is his great reward. At the invitation to view the celestial beauty of the Lord's creation, Abram is assured the Lord's great reward would not only be a son but a nation.*

***After these events the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision. He said, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."***


***Abram said, "Lord God what can you give me, since I remain childless, and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" Abram also said, "Look, you have given me no offspring, so a servant born in my house will be my heir."***

**Just then, the word of the Lord came to him. God said, “This man will not be your heir, but instead one who will come out of your own body will be your heir.” The Lord then brought him outside and said, “Now look toward the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” He said to Abram, “This is what your descendants will be like.” Abram believed in the Lord, and the Lord credited it to him as righteousness.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY:**

**PSALM 16**

*Refrain*



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,  
in the land of the liv - ing.

*Psalm tone*



*Refrain*  
Keep me safe, O God,\*  
for in you I take refuge.  
I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord,\*  
apart from you I have no good thing.”  
I have set the LORD always before me.\*  
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

*Refrain*  
My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices,\*  
my body also will rest secure,  
because you will not abandon me to the grave,\*  
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.  
You have made known to me the path of life,\*  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

**SECOND LESSON**

**2 PETER 1: 16 – 21**

*Peter’s testimony was certain because he was eyewitness. He had seen the glory of God in Christ on the mountain. He had seen the glory of life from death in the upper room. What did*

that mean? The New Testament church had a blessing: the word of the prophets made more certain by eyewitness of glory and resurrection.

**To be sure, we were not following cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the powerful appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from within the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." We heard this voice, which came out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.**

**We also have the completely reliable prophetic word. You do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the Morning Star rises in your hearts, since we know this above all else: No prophecy of Scripture comes about from someone's own interpretation. In fact, no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were being carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29b)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

#### GOSPEL

#### JOHN 20: 19 – 31

*With repeated assurances of peace the gathered disciples are overjoyed to behold the risen Christ with their own eyes. Armed with the Ministry of the Keys, Jesus commissions them to proclaim their joy and open the kingdom of heaven to lost sinners. The visible and physical proofs demanded by Thomas anticipate future doubters of the Son of Man's divinity. In his grace we behold our risen Lord through Word and sacrament.*

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

***On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.***

***Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."***

***But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”***

***But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”***

***After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”***

***Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”***

***Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”***

***Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.***

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

### NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***\*\*Please Be Seated\*\****

# HYMN OF THE DAY:

#291

## WE HAVE A SURE PROPHETIC WORD



1 We have a sure pro - phet - ic Word  
 2 By pow'rs of em - pire banned and burned,  
 3 What - e'er the Word in times of old  
 4 A - bid - ing, stead - fast, firm, and sure,



By in - spi - ra - tion of the Lord,  
 By pa - gan pride re - ject - ed, spurned,  
 Of fu - ture days and deeds fore - told  
 The teach - ings of the Word en - dure.



And, though as - sailed on ev - 'ry hand,  
 The Word still stands, the Chris - tian's trust,  
 Is all - ful - filled while a - ges roll,  
 Blest all who trust this stead - fast Word;



Je - ho - vah's Word shall ev - er stand.  
 While haugh - ty em - pires lie in dust.  
 As traced on the pro - phet - ic scroll.  
 Their an - chor holds in Christ, the Lord.

Text: Emanuel Cronewett, 1841–1931, alt.

Tune: WO GOTT ZUM HAUS (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535.

## SERMON TEXT:

2 PETER 1: 16 -21

## SERMON THEME:

HEAR THE WORDS OF THE WITNESSES

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

### CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -





way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
 tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

*\*\*Please Be Seated\*\**

**OFFERING** – In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul tells us: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

*\*\*Please Stand\*\**

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

**Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

**Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

**Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

*Special Prayers and Intercessions*

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

*Silent prayer.*

Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**#288**

**THE GOSPEL SHOWS THE FATHER'S GRACE**



1 The gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who  
 2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who  
 3 It brings the Sav - ior's right - eous - ness To  
 4 It is the pow'r of God to save From  
 5 It bears to all the ti - dings glad And



sent his Son to save our race, Pro -  
 made the a - ton - ing sac - ri - fice And  
 robe our souls in roy - al dress; From  
 sin and Sa - tan and the grave; It  
 bids their hearts no more be sad; The



claims how Je - sus lived and died That  
 calls the souls with guilt op - pressed To  
 all our guilt it brings re - lease And  
 works the faith which firm - ly clings To  
 wea - ry, bur - dened souls it cheers And



we might thus be jus - ti - fied.  
 come and find e - ter - nal rest.  
 gives the trou - bled con - science peace.  
 all the trea - sures which it brings.  
 ban - ish - es their guilt - y fears.

6 May we in faith its message learn  
 Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;  
 May we in faith its truth confess  
 And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
 Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628.

## THE SACRAMENT

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Lift up your hearts.



C: It is good and right so to do.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

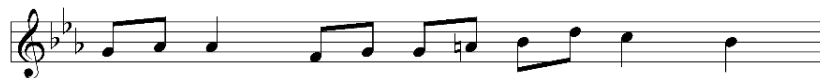
### SANCTUS



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

## DISTRIBUTION

**DISTRIBUTION** – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

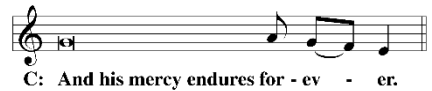
**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

## SONG OF SIMEON

NUNC DIMITTIS



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra-el.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

## CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

## THE BLESSING

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

**CLOSING HYMN:****GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE**

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -  
 ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our  
 chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way; In death it  
 is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its  
 teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925.

Tune: REUTER (87 87 66 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

### WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment, and destroy this present world.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pastor Out of Town:** Pastor Emmons will attend the West Coast Conference in Scottsdale, AZ, from April 27 to May 2. For emergencies, please contact Elder Gene Baldwin at 541-610-9978.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study:** We will resume our study of Luke's Gospel.

**Midweek Bible Study:** Our Tuesday Evening Bible Study will resume on May 13 at 6 pm at Pastor Emmons' home, located at 4927 SW Yew Pl, or you can join us via Zoom. We will focus on reaching out to our neighbors using the One by One Bible study by Pastor David Rosenau. To join us on Zoom, the link is provided, or you can email Pastor Emmons, and he will send you the link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

**Annual Congregational/Voters Meeting:** Our church will convene on May 4 for a congregational meeting. This informative event is open to all confirmed members and aims to provide a platform for discussion and input before the Voters' Meeting—voting members include all our confirmed men over 18. The Voters' Meeting will be held on May 18; we currently have 18 voting members and need a quorum of 12 to conduct business.

**Vicar Call Day:** The Bethany Lutheran College Chapel will stream the live feed of the Candidate and Vicar calls at 2 pm (PST) on May 7. The link to the website is: <https://chapel.blc.edu>

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