

resurrection  
**REALity**



**The Living Lord Produces Active Faith**

# Easter 5

April 27/28, 2024

**Theme of the Day:** *The Living Lord Produces Active Faith*

Generally, our actions are shaped by our beliefs. People who eat low-carb diets do so, probably not because they hate pasta, but because they believe it healthiest. If a man buys stock in a company, it probably is because he believes in their business plan. Our beliefs shape our behavior. This is true of Christians' belief in the resurrection. We believe that Christ's resurrection means our resurrection to a glorious eternal life is guaranteed. That inevitably shapes how we will act now.

However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus is not some wise, dead sage whose advice is contained in dusty books. Jesus lives! Therefore, through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.

resurrection  
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**Series Theme:** *Resurrection Reality*

St. Paul writes, “Christ has indeed been raised from the dead” (*1 Corinthians 15:20*). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of the Jesus’ resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time’s infinite line, Jesus’ resurrection is the moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus’ resurrection proves that “all will be made alive” (*1 Corinthians 15:22*). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now.

The greatest theologian of the early church, Augustine, called the season of Easter “a joyful week of weeks”—seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality.

Our worship follows this pattern.

|                    |   |                 |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| March 31           | Without the Resurrection Faith is Futile        | Easter Sunday   |
| April 6/7          | The Living Lord Gives Proof and Peace           | Easter 2        |
| April 13/14        | We Have a Meaningful Message to Share           | Easter 3        |
| April 20/21        | The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding      | Easter 4        |
| <b>April 27/28</b> | <b>The Living Lord Produces Active Faith</b>    | <b>Easter 5</b> |
| May 4/5            | Jesus’ Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours  | Easter 6        |
| May 11/12          | Christ’s Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever | Ascension       |
| May 18/19          | Christ Has Not Left Us Alone                    | Pentecost       |



# We Come into the Presence of God

## Musical Introduction

*This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.*

## Grades Pre K – 2nd: “The Butterfly Song”

5:30 pm

Accompanist – Amanda Bergemann

*If I were a butterfly, I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings,  
And if I were a robin in a tree, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing.  
And if I were a fish in the sea, I'd wiggle my tail, and I'd giggle with glee,*

### CHORUS:

*But I just thank you, Father, for making me....me.  
'Cause you gave me a heart, and you gave me a smile,  
You gave me Jesus, and you made me your child,  
And I just thank you, Father, for making me....me.*

*If I were an elephant, I'd thank you, Lord, for raising my trunk,  
And if I were a kangaroo, I'd just hop right up to you.  
And if I were an octopus, I'd thank you, Lord, for my good looks,  
CHORUS.*

*If I were a wiggly worm, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm,  
And if I were a crocodile, I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile.  
And if I were a fuzzy wuzzy bear, I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy wuzzy hair,  
CHORUS.*

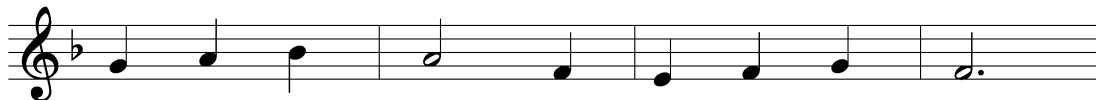
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# Opening Hymn: 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

sts. 1-3



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!



Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare,



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
on - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

## *Refrain*



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;



death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010; Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938

Tune: Tanzanian

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Tune: Public domain

## Invocation

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

**Amen.**

## Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## Opening Hymn: 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

*sts. 4–5*

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave;  
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.

he has a - ris - en this world to save.  
Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two lines of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the next two lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.



Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.  
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."  
he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;

death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

# We Listen

## First Reading

*Acts 4:32–37*

<sup>32</sup>All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup>that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup>and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

<sup>36</sup>Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), <sup>37</sup>sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.

## Psalm of the Day

63C

You, God, are my God,  
earnestly I seek you;

**I thirst for you,  
my whole being longs for you,**  
in a dry and parched land  
where there is no water.

**I have seen you in the sanctuary  
and beheld your power and your glory.**

Because your love is better than life,  
my lips will glorify you.

**I will praise you as long as I live,  
and in your name I will lift up my hands.**

Because you are my help,  
I sing in the shadow of your wings.

Lord, you are my hope and stay;  
**I will ever sing your praise.**

## Second Reading

*1 John 3:18–24*

<sup>18</sup>Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup>If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup>and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup>The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

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

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

## Gospel

*John 15:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## Children's Message

### Hymn of the Day: 595 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, may we rip - en  
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing gifts the Giv - er  
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern  
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, may we grow till



and in - crease, fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,  
 loves to bless; here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,  
 and our goal, teach us, as the years fly fast - er,  
 har - vests cease; till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



rich in love and joy and peace.  
 pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.  
 good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.  
 heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932

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## Sermon

# We Respond

## Offering

*If you would like to give an offering, there is an offering plate by the back door of church.*

*If you are a guest in our church, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering.  
You enrich us simply by being here.*

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.**

## 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.  
**Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 822 Pass Me Not

sts. 1–2, Ref, 3–4



1 Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, hear my  
 2 Let me at thy throne of mer - cy find a  
 3 Trust - ing on - ly in thy mer - it, would I  
 4 Thou the spring of all my com - fort, more than



hum - ble cry; while on oth - ers thou art  
 sweet re - lief; kneel - ing there in deep con -  
 seek thy face; heal my wound - ed, bro - ken  
 life to me, whom have I on earth be -



call - ing, do not pass me by. v. 2  
 tri - tion, help my un - be - lief. Refrain  
 spir - it, save me by thy grace. v. 4  
 side thee, whom in heav'n but thee. Refrain



Sav - ior, Sav - ior, hear my hum - ble cry;



while on oth - ers thou art call - ing, do not pass me by.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
 Tune: William Doane, 1832–1915  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Closing Musical Interlude

This is an opportunity to sign the red Friendship Register at the end of your pew.



Why do we exist as a church?  
What is our mission?  
Why does it matter?

Join us at 9:15 am in the sanctuary for  
a challenging, motivating, and empowering study about  
the most important mission in history . . .

the mission of the church.

**It is the mission of**



**to**

**Grow in the Word**

**and to**

**Go with the Word**



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is part of a group of 1250 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 45 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 34 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.



## Serving in Worship

**Pastor:** Jon Bergemann  
**Organist:** Joan Richmond  
**Ushers:** John Roland, Bob Reichert,  
and Bill Merchantz  
**Greeters:** Don Kaegler  
**AV Team:** Bob Reichert, Joe Garetto,  
Kristen Reynolds,  
Zach Dankert

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HE IS RISEN  
*alleluia*



# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN ACADEMY

To know, to grow, and to show.

## Join us for Bible Class

Sundays 9:15 am - 10:15 am Sanctuary and online



All children aged PreK-6th grade are welcome to join us to learn about God's word through stories, music and activities. We will meet in the school library, at the end of the school hallway, on Sundays from 9:10-10:20a.

Email [BLAST@gsdg.org](mailto:BLAST@gsdg.org)

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