

**He asked her,
“Woman, why are you crying?
Who is it you are looking for?”**

John 20:15

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2026

11:00A

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONOVER, NC
EASTER DAY, 2026
11 AM FESTIVAL WORSHIP

PRELUDE

TMN Brass

We use this time to prepare our hearts for worship of the Risen King.

PREPARATION

We stand and face the rear of the nave.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and the T Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE

1 Corinthians 15:54b–57

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed, alleluia!

P “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory?”

C O death, where is your sting?”

P The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

C But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

EASTER GOSPEL

St. John 20:1-18

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.* So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

* During these words, the Christ Candle is lit.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” 457



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to-day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which He endured, Al - le - lu - ia!
△ 4 Sing we to our God a-bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

P All of you choirs of angels and saints in heaven before us:

C Rejoice at Christ's victory over death.

P Now, heaven and earth, even all of creation:

C Rejoice, for the eternal darkness has been defeated.

P Rejoice, brothers and sisters in Christ both here and around the world!

C Our Lord has kept all God's promises!

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P This is the day that the LORD has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the Feast"

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” 633



1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread
 Women: 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

Men: 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

*Brass Alone: 6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!*

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.

D 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON "As of First Importance" Pastor Michael Geml

We stand.

NICENE CREED

Inside back cover of LSB

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You have looked on us, whom You created, and sent Your only-begotten Son into this world to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we give thanks to You for His all-availing death on the cross, bringing life and salvation for all who will believe.

Gathered in the name and in the remembrance of Jesus on this third day, we ask You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us in our faith as we receive His true body and blood in this Sacrament. Gather Your children from every tribe, nation, people, and tongue, to celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously deliver and preserve us, for to You, almighty God, be all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

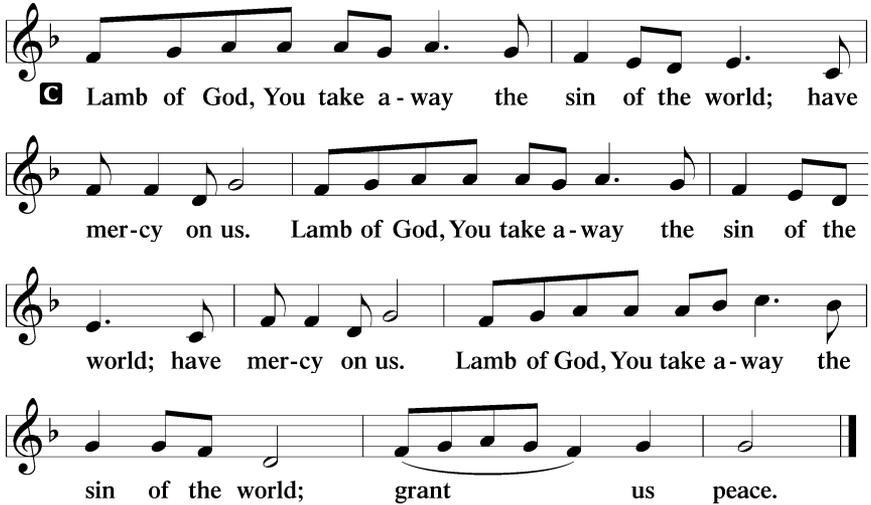
PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

AGNUS DEI



☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

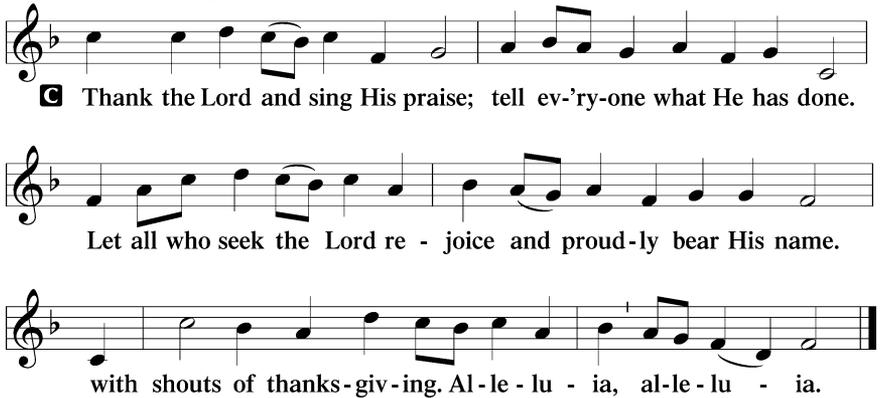
We sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“The Day of Resurrection”	478
“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”	487
“With High Delight Let Us Unite”	483

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, through Your Son’s body and blood, the blessings of the first Easter Day have been given to us again on this Easter Day! Savoring the sweetness of our Redeemer’s victory, help us to go forth and share the hope of the resurrection so that all people may know Your saving love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” 461



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to
 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'n - ly friend; He lives and



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort
 loves me to the end; He lives, and while He



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
 lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Proph - et, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE

“This Joyful Eastertide”

arr. Wilkinson