

## Welcome to Tree of Life!

*The members of Tree of Life extend to you a hearty welcome!*

*We are a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS: [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)). As congregation of this synod, we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people. We don't claim to be the only saving church, but we do strive to preserve and pass on the truth as it's found in the Bible. We at Tree of Life believe and teach that...*

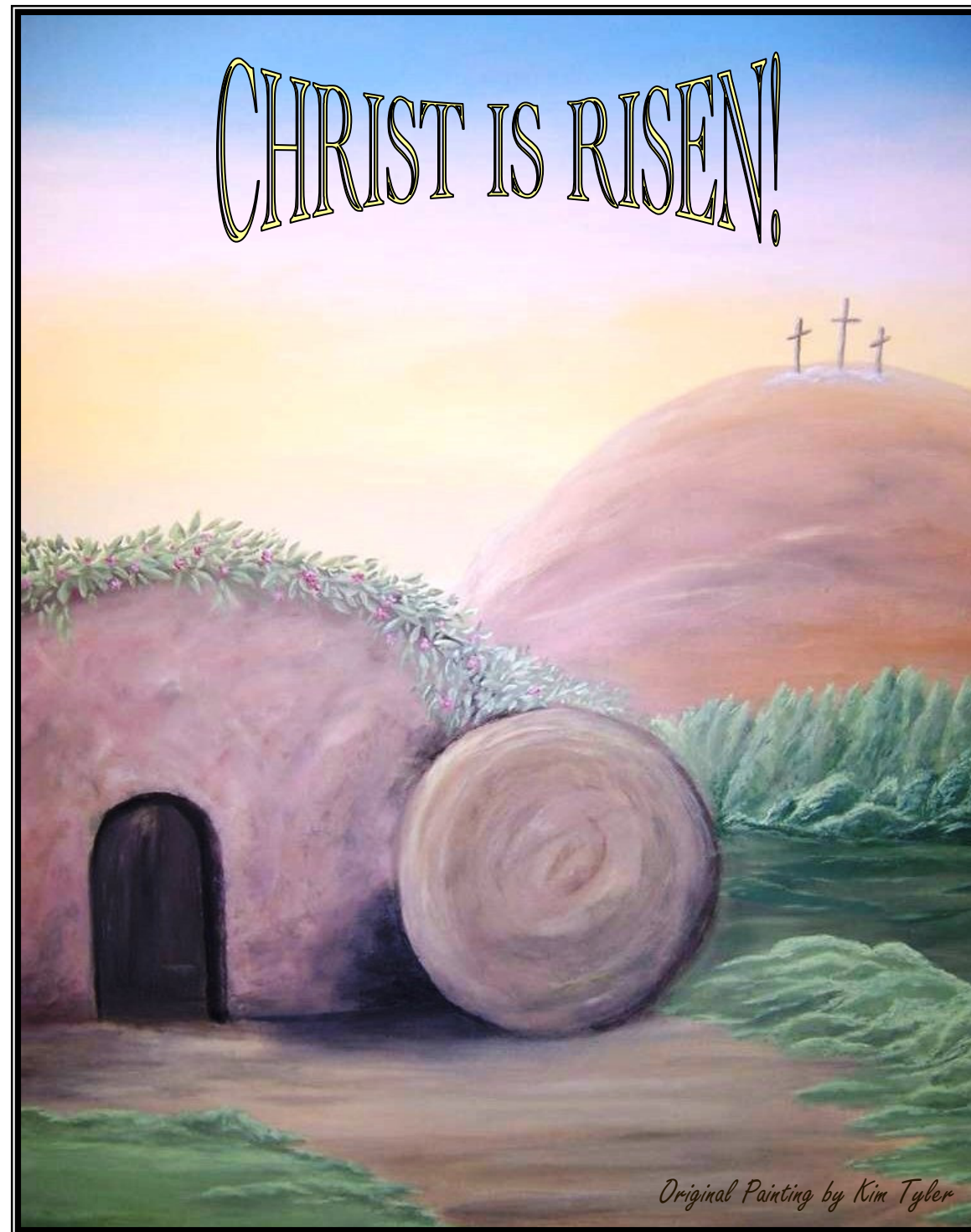
1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, with no mistakes and no errors, his unchanging message to all people of all times:  
**"Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)**
2. God created people holy and without sin, but by their own choice they disobeyed God and brought sin upon the whole human race: **"Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned." (Romans 5:12)**
3. The final result of sin is not only the end of our earthly life, but eternal death and separation from God in the agony of hell: **"The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23)**
4. The main and central message of the Bible is the gospel - the good news that: **"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but has eternal life." (John 3:16)**
5. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life in the place of every human being, and Jesus suffered the punishment of hell for the whole human race when he died on the cross:  
**"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)**
6. God the Holy Spirit creates and strengthens saving faith in Jesus Christ through the message about him in the Bible, in Baptism, and in the Lord's Supper: **"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the words of Christ." (Romans 10:17)**
7. Christians do good works, not in order to earn a place in heaven, but out of love and thanks to God who has already given them eternal life as a free gift through Jesus: **"I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free." (Psalm 119:32)**
8. Christians will want to gather together regularly around the Word of God for the strengthening of their own trust in Jesus and for encouraging each other in the faith: **"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the (final) Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)**
9. Christians want to carry out the Lord's great commission to spread the good news about Jesus to others: **"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15)**
10. When the Lord returns in judgment on the last day, he will raise all the dead and give the full glory of everlasting life in heaven to all who trusted in him as Savior: **"When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." (Colossians 3:4)**

*We invite you to worship with us again and we sincerely hope that you will accept this invitation. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.*



### TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
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# Easter Sunday

APRIL 12, 2009

**CHRIST'S RESURRECTION BRINGS  
REAL HOPE AND TRUE CHANGE!**



## Good Morning!

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

May the joy of Jesus' resurrection fill your hearts as we gather to praise and worship our living Savior!

**Pre-service Music** .....“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”  
*Organ, Piano & Choir*

**Opening Hymn** ..... “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”  
*Christian Worship Hymn 157*  
*Brass: Philip Ahlers, Matthew Ahlers & Pastor Mike Geiger*

*Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!*  
*Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Our salvation has procured, Alleluia!*  
*Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!*  
*Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!*  
*Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!*  
*Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!*  
*Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!*

M: Why do you look for the living among the dead?

**C: He is risen indeed!**

M: The Lord is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed!**

M: The Lord is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed!**

**APRIL 12, 2009  
THE WEEK AHEAD**

WELCOME! THANK YOU for joining us this morning! We pray that you were blessed by your time with us!

### Today!

Happy Easter!

**Monday** •6:30 PM

Outreach Visits

•7:30 PM

Wings & the Word: @ Rudino's– Read 1 Peter 1:1-16

**Wednesday** •9:30 AM

Ladies' Bible Study

•6:00 PM

Confirmation Class

•6:30 PM

Teen Group Meeting

**Next Sunday** •8:30 AM

Worship w/Communion

•9:45 AM

Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Bible Class

•11:00 AM

Worship w/Communion

•12:30 PM

Leadership Team Meeting

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 21-22 Pastor's Conference in Clarksville, MD
- April 23rd Pre-call Meeting with District President @7 PM All are encouraged to attend.
- April 26th Congregational/Voters' Meeting
- ToL Garden Work Day after Cong. Meeting

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> SERVICE STARTS NEXT SUNDAY!

A new phase of Tree of Life's ministry starts next Sunday- adding a second worship opportunity to our schedule!

**8:30: Early worship service**

**9:45: Sunday School & Bible Class Start**

**10:30-11:00: Fellowship Time**

**10:45: Sunday School Ends**

**11:00: Late Worship Service**

We pray that this schedule will allow more individuals to connect with the Word as well as provide opportunities for fellowship among those that attend both services.

#### PASTOR GEIGER ACCEPTS CALL to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Burnsville, MN.

After almost 12 years of starting and serving Tree of Life, the Lord has led Pastor Mike and his family to accept a new calling to serve Good Shepherd in Burnsville. Transition will occur at the end of June with June 28th being Pastor Mike's last Sunday. Mr. Roger Larsen, ToL President, will be working with the leaders and congregation of ToL and District President to call a new Pastor.

#### PRE-CALL MEETING WITH DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOEL PETERMAN:

Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00 PM, President Peterman will meet with the ToL congregation to determine the ministry needs of the congregation and to move forward in calling a new pastor. ALL are invited and encouraged to attend.

What kind of change has God worked in us?

How does the inner change affect our outward actions?

2. \_\_\_\_\_

How does this inner change have eternal consequences?

### JESUS LIVES!

### WE HAVE REAL HOPE AND TRUE CHANGE!

#### THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK:

**KEYBOARDIST / MUSIC :** Dawn Williams

**REFRESHMENTS**  
Ablers Family & Austin Family

**KID'S CHURCH** Leader: Shauna Ranft  
Helpers: Matthew Ablers & Cori May

**NURSERY** Bible Study ..... Dori Collins  
Worship ..... Hanna Neyhart

**CHURCH CLEANING**  
Side A ..... Neuman Family  
Side B ..... May Family

**GREETERS**  
Door Greeter Josh Raabe & Meredith Johnson  
Worship Greeter..... Kem Ablers

**USHERS**  
Head Usher ..... John Schmitt  
Assistant Usher: Rex Mautbe & Philip Williams  
Acolyte ..... Liz Mautbe & Chris Swift

#### SERVING NEXT WEEK: APRIL 19TH

**KEYBOARDIST / MUSIC :** 8:30 AM: Sarah Neuman 11 AM: Lisa Lucht

**REFRESHMENTS**  
Collins Family & Englander Family

**KID'S CHURCH** Leader: Patti Johnson  
Helpers: Philip Ablers & Michael May

**NURSERY** Bible Study ..... Christy Geiger  
Worship ..... Leanna Small

**CHURCH CLEANING**  
Side A ..... Lum Family  
Side B ..... Neyhart Family

**GREETERS**  
Door Greeter ..... Linda Setliff  
Worship Greeter..... Heather Ogonowski

**USHERS**  
Head Usher ..... Jack May  
Assistant Usher: Mike Malone & Bob Englander  
Acolyte ..... Cori May & Michael May

[www.treeoflifenc.org/calendar](http://www.treeoflifenc.org/calendar)

M: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? Death has been swallowed up in victory!

**C: Christ is risen indeed!**

M: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."

**C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: The Lord is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn ..... "Christ Is Risen"  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

#### Refrain

Christ is risen!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Christ is risen, risen indeed! Hallelujah!

#### Verse 3

Tell it abroad,  
"Jesus is Lord!"  
Shout it and let your praise ring!  
Gladly we raise  
Our songs of praise;  
Worship is our offering. (Refrain)

#### Verse 1

Love's work is done;  
The battle is won.  
Where now, O death, is your sting?  
He rose again  
to rule and to reign,  
Jesus, our conquering King. (Refrain)

#### Verse 2

Lord over sin,  
Lord over death,  
At His feet Satan must fall!  
Every knee bow;  
All will confess  
Jesus is Lord over all! (Refrain)

Chris Rolinson | © 1989 Thankyou Music

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: The Scripture says, "He was delivered over to death for our sins...  
Recognizing that it was our sins that caused him to die, let us confess to him.

**C: Lord Jesus, we know that it was for our sins that you came to this earth to live and die. With a humble heart I seek the forgiveness you won through your death on the cross. Forgive me Lord for my sins of denial. Like Peter, when I am faced with persecution, I deny knowing you. Forgive me Lord for my sins of doubt. Like Thomas, I desire to walk by sight, not by faith. Forgive me Lord for my sins of persecution. Like Saul, I can be a hindrance to the spread of the Gospel versus an asset. For these and all other sins of thought, word and deed, I pray, "Lord have mercy on me, a sinner."**

M: The Scripture also says, "[He] ...was raised to life for our justification" (*Romans 4:25*). Jesus' resurrection proves to you and me that the payment for our sin was enough. Indeed it was finished, "paid in full!" For the sake of Jesus, God declares us not guilty and our sins washed away. "Death has been swallowed up in victory! Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Receive with believing hearts this promise of forgiveness is yours in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: AMEN**

M: In the peace of forgiveness let us with the angels and all creation sing praise to the Lamb who was slain and with his blood purchased us for God.

**Song of Praise** ..... "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"  
*Verses 3-5* *Christian Worship Hymn 154*

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia,  
give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
give praise to his name.

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia,  
give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
give praise to his name.

We have been crucified with Christ;  
Now we shall live forever.

God has proclaimed his gracious gift:  
Life eternal for all who believe.

**MESSAGE NOTES  
APRIL 12, 2009**

**“We Have REAL Hope and TRUE Change!”**

How would you define "real hope" and "true change?"

**Real Hope ...**

Webster: HOPE: "to cherish a desire with anticipation"

In what do people put their hope?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Why are we to be "pitied" if our hope is just for this life?

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Why does the reality of Christ's resurrection bring real hope?

**True Change...**

Why do people make changes?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**Closing Hymn** ..... “Crown Him With Many Crowns”  
*Christian Worship Hymn 341*

<p>Crown him with many crowns,          The Lamb upon his throne;          Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns          All music but its own.          Awake, my soul, and sing          Of him who died for thee,          And hail him as thy matchless King          Through all eternity.</p> <p>Crown him the Lord of love --          Behold his hands and side,          Rich wounds, yet visible above,          In beauty glorified.          No angel in the sky          Can fully bear that sight,          But downward bends his wond'ring eye          At mysteries so bright.</p>	<p>Crown him the Lord of life,          Who triumphed o'er the grave          And rose victorious in the strife          For those he came to save.          His glories now we sing          Who died and rose on high,          Who died eternal life to bring          And lives that death may die.</p> <p>Crown him the Lord of heav'n,          Enthroned in worlds above;          Crown him the King to whom is giv'n          The wondrous name of Love.          Crown him with many crowns          As thrones before him fall;          Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns          For he is King of all.</p>
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**THE EASTER LILIES IN THE SANCTUARY WERE GIVEN BY:**



*Marty & Kathy Ranft*  
*Jim & Judy Heikkila in memory of Irene Collins*  
*The May family in memory of Warren Lange and C. Jack May (grandfathers)*  
*Pat & Roy Stolpa*  
*Bob & Sarah Englander, in honor of our grandchildren, Tyler & Kayleigh*  
*and in memory of George Wittschen*

**THANK YOU...**to all who were part of making today a glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection! We are grateful to all those that cleaned up the property, prepared breakfast, ran the egg hunt, enhanced our worship with their talents or just served behind the scenes to make our Easter celebration memorable.

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia,  
 give thanks to the risen Lord.  
 Alleluia, alleluia,  
 give praise to his name.

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia,  
 give thanks to the risen Lord.  
 Alleluia, alleluia,  
 give praise to his name.

Come, let us praise the living God;  
 Joyfully sing to our Savior.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever ,

**C:** *(spoken)* **AMEN.**

*BE SEATED*

**FIRST LESSON**  
**ISAIAH 25: 6-9**

*“What a reason to celebrate! Death has been swalled up forever.”*

<sup>6</sup> On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.

<sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations;

<sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**CHOIR** ..... “Christ our Savior Lives”

Christ our Savior lives Joyfully proclaim! Christ our Savior lives Joyfully proclaim!  
Christ our Savior lives let all creation Christ our Savior lives let all creation  
praise his holy name. praise his holy name.

Christ our Savior lives. All within me Christ our Savior lives sing hallelujah!  
sing! Let my heart burst forth with O Christ our Savior lives, hallelujah!  
hallelujahs to my God and King Our Savior lives, sing hallelujah!  
O what great love, He gave his life to Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
save us,

Christ our Savior lives Joyfully proclaim!  
To wash away each spot and stain. Christ our Savior lives let all creation  
O blessed day for He has risen praise his holy name.  
victorious.  
He showed His power o’er the grave.

**SECOND LESSON**

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:19-26**

*“Christ’s resurrection proves ultimate victory over sin, death and the devil.”*

<sup>19</sup>If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.  
<sup>20</sup>But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have  
fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead  
comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made  
alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those  
who belong to him. <sup>24</sup>Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to  
God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he  
must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be  
destroyed is death.

M: *Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. This is the day the Lord  
has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, as we forgive those  
hallowed be thy name, who trespass against us;  
thy kingdom come, and lead us not into temptation,  
thy will be done but deliver us from evil.  
on earth as it is in heaven. For thine is the kingdom  
Give us this day our daily bread; and the power and the glory  
and forgive us our trespasses, forever and forever. Amen.

**BLESSING**

M: Let not your heart be troubled Let not your soul be sad  
Today is a day of joy When God makes all our hearts glad,  
Glad to know that Jesus Christ Died and rose so all men  
might have their sins forgiven And, like Him, to live again . . .  
So on this joyous Easter Day May the wondrous Easter Story  
Renew our Faith so we may be Partakers of "His Glory!"

“May the Peace of God” ..... *Christian Worship Supplement Hymn 745*  
*Led by small group. Congregation may join in as comfortable.*

**Verse 1**

May the peace of God our heav’nly Father,  
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,  
And the fellowship of God the Spirit  
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

**Verse 2**

May this peace which passes understanding,  
And this grace which makes us what we are,  
And this fellowship of his Communion  
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

**Refrain**

And to him be praise for his glorious reign  
From the depths of earth  
to the heights of heav’n.  
We declare the name  
of the Lamb once slain—  
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

**Refrain**

M: 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:** *(sing)* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

**C: Alleluia!**

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

**C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.**

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

**C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.**

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

**C: You are risen!**

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

**C: You are risen indeed!**

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

**C: Alleluia!**

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

**C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.**

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

**C: He is risen!**

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

**C: He is risen indeed!**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

**C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.**

*STAND*

After the announcement of the Gospel Lesson:

**C: (sing) Glory be to you, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

**MARK 16:1-8**

*"The reality? Jesus lives!"*

<sup>1</sup>When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup>Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup>and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

<sup>4</sup>But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

<sup>6</sup>"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.' "

<sup>8</sup>Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

After the reading of the Gospel Lesson:

**C: (sing) Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**Hymn** ..... “I Know That My Redeemer Lives”  
*Verses 1-3, 7-8* *Christian Worship Hymn 152*

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living Head!	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.
He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save. He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.	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!"
He lives to bless me with his love; He lives to plead for me above. He lives, my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.	

**KID'S CHURCH**

“Jesus Rises from the Dead”  
*Children ages 3 years to 2nd grade*

**CHRIST'S RESURRECTION BRINGS  
 REAL HOPE AND TRUE CHANGE!**

1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
*Pastor Mike Geiger*

**Statement of Belief** ..... *Apostle's 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.

**Friendship Registers**

**Offering**  
 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” ... *Dawn Williams, Sarah Neuman & Joanna Furno*

**Prayer of the Church**..... *EASTER- Responsive*

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope  
 by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

**C: Christ is risen!**

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

**C: He is risen indeed!** *Continued on next page*