

*New Life Ev. Lutheran Church
Lake Zurich, IL*

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

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**Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024**

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the lower level of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the fellowship hall after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon. The service is also simulcast on the church's Facebook page.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

Before Service Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, conqueror of death, we praise and extol You that in Your resurrection You have completed our redemption and revealed Your victory on our behalf over sin, Satan, and the grave. Your resurrection is also the proof that all You said is indeed God's truth. Fill us today with confident faith and joyful readiness to confess You before all people. Direct our minds to the crown of life that You have gained and prepared for us. Lead us in pure worship and living service so we show that we are children of Your resurrection. Grant us daily newness of life and, as fruit of it, irrepressible joy in You. Amen.

Today's Service: "Service of the Word" NPH reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #11327771.

Theme for Easter Sunday: **RESURRECTION REALITY -- ALL WILL BE MADE ALIVE**

The film director Woody Allen once said, "I'm not afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens." Studies have shown that most people fear death to varying degrees. This fear is so common, there is even a field of psychological study called thanatology. It examines human reaction to death and dying. One of the biggest reasons people fear death is the perception of its permanency. In the normal realm of human existence, dead is dead. Someone dies, and all you have are pictures and memories. That is the way people typically think, but it is far from reality. Today, Christ proves to us that death is *not* final at all!

Easter teaches us that Christ is the first fruits of those who have died. Just as Christ rose, "so in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). That changes everything: the way we grieve the death of a Christian loved one, the way we feel when our health fails, the way we look at the purpose of life right now. Let us rejoice in this resurrection reality: All will be made alive!

Pastor's Welcome

Opening Hymn: CW 451 "See, What a Morning" (Follow the Pastor's lead. There are musical interludes between each of the verses.)

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, who created our bodies;
in the name of the Son, who by His blood redeemed our bodies and souls;
in the name of the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism sanctified our bodies to be His temple;
keep us in faith to the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

C: **Amen.**

Opening Sentences Romans 6:4; Colossians 3:1, 3

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P: We were buried with Christ by Baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,

C: **we too might walk in newness of life.**

P: If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

C: **For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.**

Confession and Absolution Psalm 51:17

P: On the cross Jesus said, "It is finished," and on Easter our Father in heaven acknowledged the sacrifice complete by raising our Savior from death. Forgiveness is available to all who call out to God in Jesus' name. Let us therefore confess our sins.

Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.

P: Heavenly Father,

C: **we confess that we have not walked in newness of life. We have failed to love You with all that we are and have, and we have not always remembered the new life You bestowed on us in Baptism.**

P: Lord Jesus,

C: **we confess that we have not always sought the things that are above. We have failed to love our neighbors with our thoughts, words, and deeds.**

P: O Holy Spirit,

C: **we have not always relied on Your power to amend our sinful lives. Create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us, for we call out to You in Jesus' name.**

P: Christ has paid for all your sins. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. As a called and ordained servant of Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Easter Proclamation

P: Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now shining and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: In the peace of forgiveness and the joy of Easter, let us praise the Lord!

Hymn of Praise:

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! (CW93 157 vs 1, 2, 4)**

The Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

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.

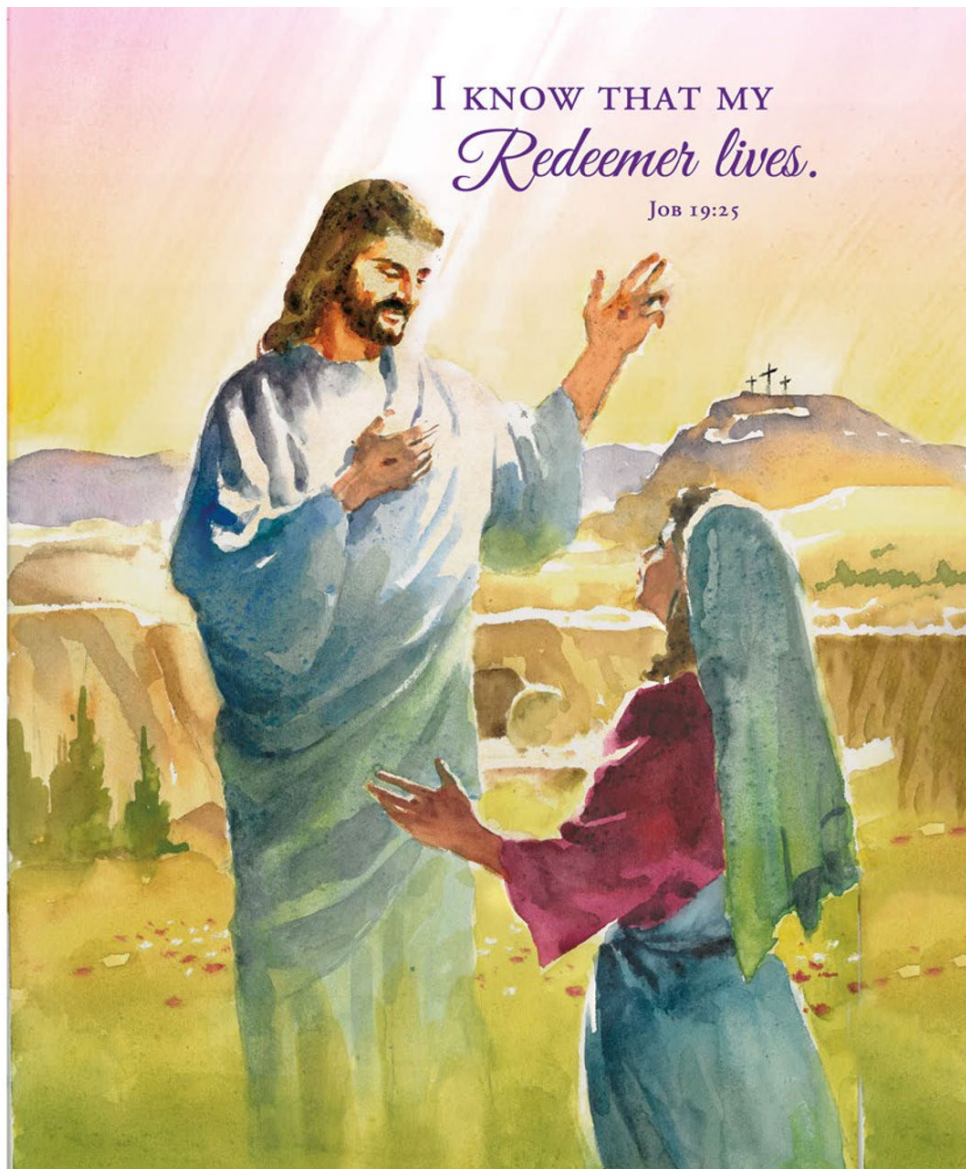
C: Amen.

The First Lesson: **Job 19:23-27** – By faith Job knew that because the redeemer lives, even though Job would die and his body would decay, he would see his God with his own eyes in the resurrection.

²³ "Oh, that my words were recorded,
that they were written on a scroll,
²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,
or engraved in rock forever!
²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.
²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
²⁷ I myself will see him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me! (NIV 2011)

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, you are the stone the builders rejected that has become the capstone. We praise You for facing the fury of Your enemies undaunted. Because You overcame death itself, we will not die but live, and we will always proclaim Your marvelous deeds; for You live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Second Lesson: **1 Corinthians 15:19-26** – Christ gives us hope in this life. But Christ’s resurrection gives us hope also for the eternal life that is to come.

¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when He comes, those who belong to Him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when He hands over the kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (NIV 2011)

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
See the place where He was laid; Alleluia!
Praise Him for the ransom paid. Alleluia!**

**For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinners' stead. Alleluia!
"Christ is ris'n," today we cry; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**Christ, who once for sinners bled, Alleluia!
Now the first-born from the dead, Alleluia!
Throned in endless might and pow'r, Alleluia!
Lives and reigns forevermore. Alleluia! (CW 442 vs. 1,2,4 CW93 150)**

The Gospel Lesson: **Mark 16:1-8** – Early Easter morning, an angel explains to the women why they won’t find Jesus’ corpse in the tomb.

P: The gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

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. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

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

⁶"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. ⁷But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him, just as He told you.'"

⁸Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid. (NIV 2011)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: CWS 449 "This Joyful Eastertide" (CW93 160)

The Sermon Text: **Mark 16:1-8** (with 1 Corinthians 15:19-28)

The Sermon Theme: God On Trial – Vindication

The Apostle's Creed—The Second Article of the Apostle's Creed and Luther's Explanation

P: Let us share together our hope in the resurrection with these words from the Apostle's Creed:

C: 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.

P: What does this mean for us?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. All this He did that I should be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as He has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

The Offering

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord's Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life's website.



The Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various conditions.

We remember before You, heavenly Father, all in whom Your Holy Spirit has worked faith in Your Son, especially all who rejoice in His victory over death and the grave. Renew in all of us new hearts and minds so that our celebrating will have no end.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: We remember before You, Lord over all, those who are unjustly accused, imprisoned, or exiled from their homes. Raise up compassionate rulers to seek out all who languish in jails, prisons, and refugee camps, and grant them speedy justice, freedom, and return to their homes.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: We remember before You, Creator God, those who till the soil and tend the flocks, all who distribute the earth's bounty, and all who care for this good earth. Guide and direct them so that times of sowing and reaping, buying and selling, produce harvests that feed the nations.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: We remember before You, Spirit of love, those who are calling out from stresses of body or soul. In sighs too deep for words, hear the depths of their distress, and grant them relief, restored health, personal dignity, and hope for the future.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: We remember before You, Lord Jesus, those who would have their way by force of arms or cunning of mind. Thwart their plans, guard the nations of the world, and let peace spring up with righteousness especially in places like Ukraine and Israel.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: We remember especially this day, risen Lord, Your glorious resurrection from the grave and Your presence with us now. Remind us each day of the new life You have given us so that we live in constant, joyful faith until we see You face-to-face.

C: Risen Savior, Lord, have mercy. Alleluia!

P: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: CW 469 "Welcome Happy Morning" (CW93 163)

P: Father in heaven, through the death and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death, and through the forgiveness of sins You give us life and salvation. Grant that we may, without doubt, believe and find comfort in the salvation from sin, death, and the devil that You won for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Let us go forth rejoicing, in the name of the Lord.

C: Amen.

P: The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who called you to life, the Son who rose to lead you to eternity with Him, and the Holy Spirit, who has given you the faith to trust all the promises of God—be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: CW 441 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (CW 93 152 vs. 1,5,7,8)

**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 to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives, all blessings to impart.**

**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, 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!"**

Announcements

Our Father's Business in the Coming Week

Cleaning this Week: Dall

Today—Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Breakfast beginning at 8:30 AM
Easter Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM
Fellowship at 10:30 AM
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:45 AM / No Adult Bible Class or Sunday School
No Confirmation Class

Sunday—First Sunday after Easter

Worship at 9:30 AM
Fellowship at 10:30 AM
Sunday School and Special Presentation in the Café at 10:45 AM
No Confirmation Class

FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP SHEET

A new sign-up sheet has been posted for providing something to eat and drink after the Sunday service. The sheet covers April 2024 through July 2024.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of Sunday, March 24th we have received \$188,453 in offerings for the current fiscal year. This places us \$20,154 ahead of the budget. \$260 has been given to support Green Team. \$1490 has been given to support Training Camp.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Thank you to everyone who brought something for the Easter breakfast this morning.

EASTER LILIES

Thank you to everyone who purchased an Easter lily. Please be sure to take your lily / lilies home after the service today.

NEW LIFE NEWS

New Life's monthly newsletter called "New Life News" was mailed out this past Friday. Copies of the newsletter are found on the table in the entryway.

GUEST PREACHER AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Rev. Paul Prange will be filling in for Pastor Bauer next Sunday. Pastor Bauer will be in Indianapolis for the baptism of his grandson, Aaron Masters Turner. Rev. Prange will also give a special presentation on the topic of worker training in our synod since he's the chairman of ministerial education. Please be sure to attend this special presentation a week from today.

OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP DAY

Outdoor clean-up day from 9:00 AM to noon on Saturday, April 13. A list of indoor and outdoor jobs will soon be posted on the bulletin board downstairs. Donuts will be served! If you see an indoor item you'd like to take care of, feel free to sign up.

EASTER EGG HUNT

When the lights flash in the fellowship hall, the kids are asked to gather in the New Life Café for instructions on how the egg hunt will work this year. Volunteers are needed to hide the egg and listen to the kid's summaries.