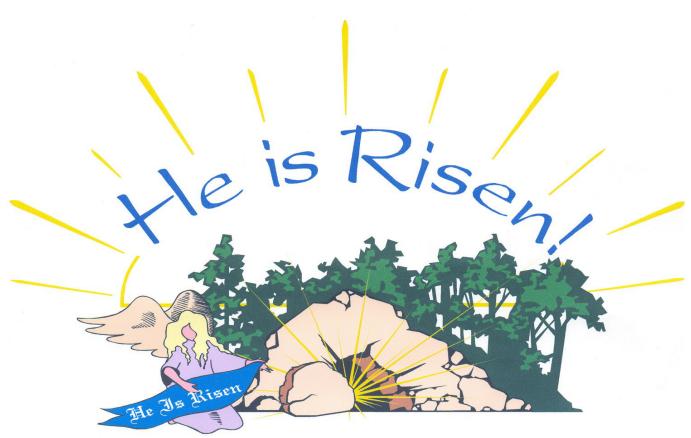
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – April 16, 2023 – PAGE 1 14344 Jamison Way (941) 249-5108







Coloring

He is Risen Indeed!
Alleluia!

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, **please** place your cell phones on mute for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning (CARDS ON BACK TABLE). It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

THE MEANING OF THE TWO PICTURES IN THE BULLETIN: The two pictures at the top of the bulletin are the church's logo and the LCMC logo (Lutheran Congregations in Missions for Christ). The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Bible Study meets at the church. Everyone welcome!!! **WOMEN'S MINISTRY:** Meets once a month. Please see Pastor's wife, Peggy Sue, for information.

DEDICATION OF OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH: MAY 21ST, REV. DONALD FRANCIS, PREACHING **We Serve Today:**

Reader: Pastor Sarah Stern Offering: Jeff Cisco, David Colburn

Communion: Peggie Sue Dygert, Fran Thibideau, Greeter: Jeff Cisco

SERVICE OF THE WORD: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME: Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

Pastor: We gather in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy

Spirit.

People: **AMEN**

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER - (congregational responses) in **BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach Your altar with love for You and our appreciation for the price You paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to Your sacrifice. For that, Dear Lord, we make our confession to You this day.

1 John 1:8-9

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen!

ABSOLUTION:

<u>Pastor</u>: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia and Amen**.

ENTRANCE HYMN: R192 - BECAUSE HE LIVES

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GATHERING LITANY – (responsive in **bold**)

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe,

for in Your wisdom You have formed us.

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

We bless You and praise Your Holy Name forever.

You set free those who are bound.

We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.

You raise up those whose courage falters.

We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.

You provide for our every need.

Accept our grateful praises.

You have called us from all peoples.

We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.

You bless your people with peace.

We bless You and praise Your loving grace.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe,

for in Your wisdom You have formed us.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

Direct us, O Lord, in all our actions by Your gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in Your name, we may glorify Your Holy Name and finally by Your mercy receive eternal life, Alleluia.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Alleluia and Amen.

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FIRST READING: Acts 5:29-42 ESV (Responsive)

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree. God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered.

So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the Name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

READING OF THE PSALM 148 ESV (Responsive)

Praise the Name of the LORD

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!

Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the Name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.

And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them Praise the Name of the LORD, for His Name alone is exalted; His Majesty is above earth and heaven.

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He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

EPISTLE READING: I Peter 1:3-9 ESV (Responsive)

Born Again to a Living Hope

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for us, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: (All please stand for reading) **John 20:19-31** ESV

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them. "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Jesus and Thomas

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but

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believe." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

The Purpose of This Book

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His Name.

GOSPEL HYMN-JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES (page 8 of bulletin) Sing 3xs

SONG FOR MEDITATION - The Old Rugged Cross - Dean Carson

SERMON: 'A belief in Things Unseen!' Rev. Steve Dygert, + STS

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Ephesians* 1:2

C: Amen

SERMON HYMN: R530 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

OFFERING

Rite of Friendship:

- P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You Always.
- C. And Also With you.
- P. We now have the opportunity to share back with the Lord a little of the bounty He has shared with us.

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.

Doxology:

Praise God, From Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us-our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS: Let us pray: (Prayer Response) Lord in your Mercy: You hear our prayers!

THE LORD'S PRAYER: KJV

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name.

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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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and forever. Amen

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: *Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20;1st Corinthians 11:23-25 (ESV)*

On the night He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said; "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to the them saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1^{st} Corinthians 11:26

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!
THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING
SENDING HYMN: R57 - ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME
THE AARONIC BENEDICTION: Numbers 6: 24-26

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH:

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony

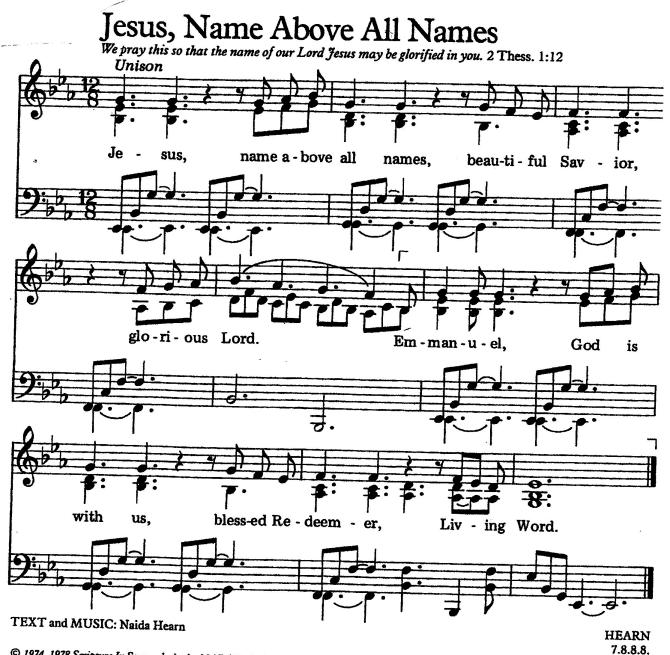
Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me!

THE DISMISSAL P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord! C. Thanks be to God!!

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