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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. 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. The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

We Serve Today:	
Reader:	Offering:
Communion:	Greeter:

SERVICE OF THE WORD – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER - congregational responses in **BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach your altar with with love for You and our concern 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: G210 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing vs 1,2,7,8 THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): P. Let us pray:

O God, you make the minds of your faithful to be of one will; therefore grant to your people that they may love what you command

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and desire what you promise, that among the manifold changes of this age our hearts may ever fixed where true joys are to be found. 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.

FIRST READING LESSON: Acts 11:1-18 (ESV)

Peter Reports to the Church

1 1 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. 2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, 3 "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." 4 But Peter began and explained it to them in order: 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. 6 Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. 7 And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' 8 But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9 But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.' 10 This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven.

11 And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. 12 And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13 And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; 14 he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.'

15 As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" 18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

PSALM: Psalm 148 (**ESV**) (*Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in Bold*) Praise the Name of the LORD

148 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;

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praise him in the heights!

2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! 3 Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! 4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created. 6 And he established them forever and ever: he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away. 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, 8 fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! 10 Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! 12 Young men and maidens together, old men and children! 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted: his majesty is above earth and heaven. 14 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 LESSON: Revelation 21:1-7 (ESV)

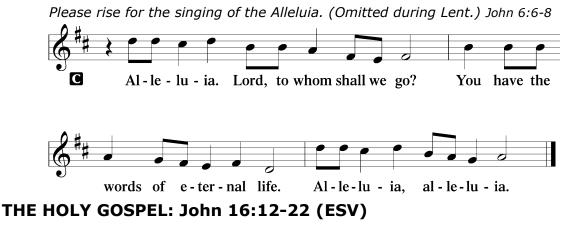
THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there

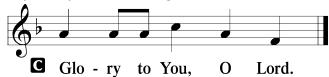
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be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 22nd Chapter.



12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Your Sorrow Will Turn into Joy

16 "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." 17 So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" 18 So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about."

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19 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? 20 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.

21 When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. 22 So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON "*I Am the Alpha and the Omega"* - **Rev. Dr. 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: G143 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

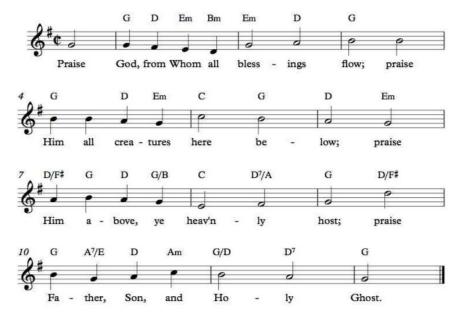
OFFERTORY HYMN: *Psalm 51:10-12*



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tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men. THE OFFERING: Offertory – Here I am Lord – Dean Carson, Pr. Steve

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology. Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

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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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. 2nd Timothy 4:22

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise

PROPER PREFACE FOR EASTER:

P: It is indeed good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

According to whose true promise the Holy Ghost came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to thy Church the power to serve thee as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore with angels and arch angel and all the hosts of Heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise: SANCTUS:

1 Holy, Holy, Holy vs 1, Revelation 4:8

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God, Almighty Early in the morning, our song shall rise to Thee Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity

PRAYERS OF PRAISE: Let us Pray: (*Prayer Response*) Lord in your Mercy: Hear our prayer. THE 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.

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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

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 of Me."

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

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: G144 Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing – listen to the first verse accompaniment and then sing vs 1-4

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION: 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 THE DISMISSAL

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

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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

Pastor's cell phone – 260.417.3304 Sermon archive – oslc-lcmc.com