



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER † APRIL 12, 2026

CROSS

Cross Lutheran Church

1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota 55109

www.crosslutheranchurch.org office@crosslutheranchurch.org 651-777-1329

Reverend Scott Simmons, Pastor

*Indicates
congregation to stand
as comfortable.

Preaching/Presiding:
Rev. Juli Thompson

Director of Music:
Kenneth Kusiak

Livestream Producer:
Jamie Gudknecht

Lay Minister:
4/12 Phyllis Moser
4/19 Dave Olson

Assisting Minister:
4/12 Carolyn Border
4/19 Phyllis Moser

Psalm:
4/12 Peter Brown
4/19 Duane Gudknecht

Ushers:
4/12 Dan and Katie
Erickson
4/19 Nic Villodres and
Carolyn Border

Coffee:
4/12 No Volunteers
4/19 Wayne and LuAnn
Lund

Altar Guild:
LuAnn Lund and
Carolyn Border

April Counters:
Kay Stack and Diana
Border

If you are interested in
serving coffee following
worship, please sign-up
on the bulletin board

If you would like to
provide flowers for
Sunday Worship, sign
up on the bulletin board
in the back of the
narthex, or contact the
office.

1

GATHER

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Bernard Reichel

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

ELW377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen..**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us
from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that
we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***KYRIE**

p.120

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

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 blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of resurrection, Your son, Jesus, awed his followers by appearing among them. With awe we celebrate his resurrection and rejoice in eternal life. Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be with you always.
And also with you.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON

John 20:19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 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 retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16



Protect me, O God, for I take ref-^luge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a-^lbove all other."

**All my delight is in the godly that are^l in the land,
upon those who are noble a-^lmong the people.**

But those who run after^l other gods
shall have their troubles^l multiplied.

**I will not pour out drink offerings^l to such gods,
never take their names up-^l on my lips. R**

O LORD, you are my portion^l and my cup;
it is you who up-^lhold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a^l pleasant land;
indeed, I have a^l rich inheritance.**

I will bless the LORD who^l gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night^l after night.

**I have set the LORD al-^lways before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall^l not be shaken. R**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir-^lit rejoices;
my body also shall^l rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me^l to the grave,
nor let your holy one^l see the pit.**

You will show me the^l path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures for-^levermore. **R**

SECOND LESSON

John 20:24-29

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

*We gather around the
WORD in reading,
preaching, and song, as
we enter into the
steadfast love of God
as proclaimed through
Holy Scripture.*

For Lutherans, the **Gospel of Christ**—the Good News of what God has done in Jesus—is at the heart of our public witness and proclamation.

This Good News is received through the Gospel accounts of the apostles Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, yes, but also in the writings of Paul, John, and Peter; in the witnesses of the Old Testament prophets; the memories of the people of Israel; and through the poetry and prose of Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs and others. The Gospel is truly the Good News of Christ proclaimed from Genesis to Revelation, whenever and however it points to God's loving, redeeming, and creative power in, with, and through Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit. Good News indeed.

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but 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 come to believe."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***ALLELUIA**

p.25

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

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL**

John 20:30-31

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you O, Lord.**

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

We Walk By Faith

ELW635

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

***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 to the dead.

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.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*This week we pray for:
Lisa, Marya, Sheree,
Marie, baby Hayden,
Gabby and baby Creed,
Ray and Clara, Henry,
Dawn, Brady, Judy, Marv,
Dottie, BettyLu, Lonna,
Bruce, Kelly, Pastor Brian,
Nick, Joshua, Rose, Dean
and Shirley, Mike, MaryJo,
Jose and family, Lew, the
Johns family, Barb, Janice,
Lindsay, Ron, and the
Marilyn Lewinski family.*


*If you have a name
to add or remove from this
prayer list, please contact
Jamie Gudknecht or
Pastor Scott.*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds **Charles Callahan**

***PRESENTATION OF GIFTS** Create in Me a Clean Heart **ELW188**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord Amen.

OFFERING

We bring our offerings to God with grateful hearts, in confidence they will be used to support the work of the church both here and throughout the world.

In ELCA liturgy, the Offering is set within the context of the Meal, for it is here that we set the table with the fruits of our hands— financial offerings, yes, but also bread and wine which are products of human effort and gifts of our gracious God. It is from this table of blessing that God feeds us with the presence of Christ

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE

p.129

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p.130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars;
beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water;
by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

In Holy Communion, we receive the gift of Christ's presence in bread and wine (the body and blood of Jesus) through the holy promise that this gift is "for you." All who desire to receive Christ's presence in, with, and through the wine and the bread are invited to this table.

***We remember** God's faithfulness to God's people and God's purposes.*

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

We remember the gift of your presence through Christ, by the Spirit, as we share in this sacred story:

**In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

**Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

***PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS**

Remembering Christ's love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you,
holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All are invited to
proclaim the words of
institution along with
the presiding pastor.*

*We give thanks and
offer praise for the
gifts of new life and
redemption in the body
and blood of Christ —
which we receive in,
with, and under the
bread and wine of Holy
Communion.*

LAMB OF GOD

p.135

Today we practice continuous communion using a pouring chalice as a common cup. Ushers will invite you to proceed up the aisle towards the pastor. Please offer cupped hands to receive the bread. Proceed to the cupbearer, select an empty cup and hold it for the lay minister to fill. Please recycle your cup in the basket provided and return via the side aisle.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please tell the pastor when you approach to receive the bread. Pre-filled juice cups are available in the silver tray.

Children who are not yet communing and others wishing not to commune may receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest.

Individual sealed communion sets are also available at the sanctuary entrance.

ANOINTING After communing, you may receive prayer and anointing with oil in the narthex.

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.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

ELW379 — *Now the Green Blade Rises*

ELW484 — *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

DISTRIBUTION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

*SONG OF THANKS Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise ELW 207

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BLESSING

God bless you and keep you.
God shine on you with grace and mercy.
God look upon you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit SENDS us, restored and refreshed in the Word and the Meal, to share the Good News.

SENDING SONG

The Strife is o'er, the Battle Done

ELW366



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*DISMISSAL Go in peace. Live and share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Prelude on "St. Albinus"

Alec Rowley

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COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Join us after worship in the community room for fellowship (and maybe coffee).

ADULT EDUCATION New series — **Heaven and Hell** — coming April 19th

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY meets Thursdays at 11:00 am. All are welcome.

CROSS CHOIR—Next rehearsal will be on April 16th from 6:30-7:30, following bell rehearsal. Anyone interested in singing or has questions please contact Ken.

BELL CHOIR—Next bell choir rehearsal Thursday, April 16th, from 5:30-6:30. Rehearsals will be typically held twice a month going forward. Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.



NEXT COMMUNITY MARKET
April 22nd



Fem. Hygiene Products Pads Bar Soap	Ongoing: Kleenex, Black ExpoMarkers, Coats
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THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, April 12
9:30am

Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee Fellowship
1:00-5:00
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Monday, April 13

Office Closed
2:00-5:00pm
Pastor Scott office drop-in

Tuesday, April 14

1:00-5:30pm
Pastor Scott office by appt

Wednesday, April 15

1:00-6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, April 16

11:00am
Bible Study
1:00-2:00pm
Worship at the Shores
2:30-5:00pm
Pastor Scott Office

Friday, April 17

1:00 - 6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
7:00pm – 10:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, April 18

9:00am – 1:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia
1:30pm – 4:30pm
Cross Organ Practice
5:00 – 7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, April 19

9:30am
Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee and fellowship
11:00am
Adult Education
1:00-5:00pm
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

