

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2026 - 11:15am

Pre-service Music

Invocation

- P** We begin in the Name of the Father,
C **Who raises His only Son, so that we might have life.**
P We begin in the Name of His Son, Jesus Christ,
C **Who redeemed us on the cross with His own blood.**
P We begin in the Name of the Holy Spirit,
C **Who comforts us, and gives us power to live. Amen. Christ is risen, Alleluia!**

Exhortation

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

(Silence for prayerful confession)

Absolution

Song:

"God of Wonders"

(based on the recording by Shane & Shane)

**Lord of all creation of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle, Glory to the Lord on high**

**Chorus: God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth**

**Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light
And as I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night**

(Chorus)

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy**

(Chorus)

**Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth**

Song:

**“Christ Is Risen”
by Matt Maher**

Verse 1

**Let no one caught in sin remain, inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross, and run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us; freely You've bled for us**

Chorus

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake, come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead, we are one with Him again
Come awake come awake, come and rise up from the grave**

Verse 2

**Beneath the weight of all our sin, you bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown, no burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign, forever let Your church proclaim**

(Chorus)

Bridge

**O death where is your sting, O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light, the glory of God has defeated the night**

**Singing O death where is your sting, O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light, Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive**

(Chorus), (Chorus)

Prayer Time Concluded with Our 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; 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.

Song:

"Jesus Loves Me"

By Chris Tomlin, Reuben Morgan, and Ben Glover

Verse 1

**I was lost I was in chains, the world had a hold of me
My heart was a stone I was covered in shame when He came for me
I couldn't run couldn't run from His presence
I couldn't run couldn't run from His arms**

Chorus

**Jesus He loves me, He loves me, He is for me
Jesus how can it be, He loves me, He is for me**

Verse 2

**It was a fire deep in my soul, I'll never be the same
I stepped out of the dark and into the light when He called my name
I couldn't run couldn't run from His presence
I couldn't run couldn't run from His arms**

Chorus

**Jesus He loves me, He loves me, He is for me
Jesus how can it be, He loves me, He is for me**

Bridge

**He holds the stars and He holds my heart, with healing hands that bear the scars
The rugged cross where He died for me, my only hope my ev'rything**

Chorus

**Jesus He loves me, He loves me oh
Jesus how can it be, He loves me He is for me**

Tag
He loves me, He is for me
My God it's amazing oh
Jesus loves me

Welcome

Pastor Randy Bard

Children's Time

Pastor Tim Eden

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But 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. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For 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. ³⁷After 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. ³⁸So 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; ³⁹but 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, ⁴⁰and 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. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

A Christ has risen from the dead.

C **[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.**

A He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C **He has put all things under his feet. Amen.**

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed 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, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Though 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, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Reading

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On 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.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶Eight 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.” ²⁷Then 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 believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon: Witnesses to These Things

Pastor Tim Eden

Our Offerings to the Lord

(Members & guests please fill out the attendance card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate. E-Giving available online at www.blcbs.org)

Benediction

Closing Song:

O Church Arise (Arise Shine)

By Keith Getty, Stewart Townend, Chris Tomlin

Verse 1

O church arise and put your armour on
Hear the call of Christ our Captain
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies
An army bold whose battle cry is Love
Reaching out to those in darkness

Verse 2

Our call to war to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valour
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure
And Christ will have the prize for which He died
An inheritance of nations

Chorus

Arise shine for your Light has come
Arise shine for the risen Son
Lift your eyes we are His radiant bride
Arise O Church arise

Verse 3

Come see the cross where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet
For the Conqueror has risen
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him

Verse 4

So Spirit come put strength in every stride
Give grace for every hurdle

**That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful
As saints of old still line the way
Retelling triumphs of His grace
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory**

**Chorus
Arise shine for your Light has come
Arise shine for the risen Son
Lift your eyes we are His radiant bride
Arise O Church arise**

(Repeat Chorus)

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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