EASTER SEASON

WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

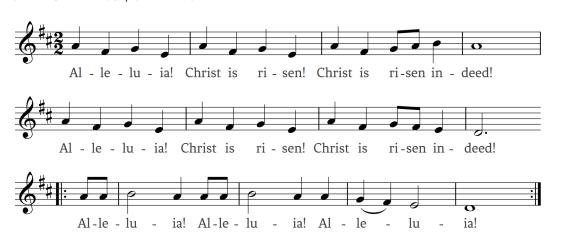
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 7, 2024

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

EASTER GREETING | STANDING



CALL TO WORSHIP | STANDING

When it was evening, on the first day of the week, Jesus came and stood among the disciples and said, "Peace be with you!"

The Risen Christ is with us now, offering us peace!

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

We too have seen the Lord, and rejoice in God's presence.

Let us worship God!



OPENING PRAYER | STANDING

God of new life,
we rejoice in the mystery of the Risen Christ,
present among us always,
even when we least expect him.
We marvel at your constant love,
Christ's victory over death,
and the Spirit's resurrection hope.
Trusting in these gifts,
we seek to live as Easter people in every time and place,
proclaiming Christ, our Risen Savior,
Amen.

RESPONSE | STANDING

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, sometimes we hide ourselves behind closed doors... afraid to love... afraid to share... afraid to be vulnerable.

Sometimes we hide ourselves behind locked minds... unwilling to love... unwilling to share... unwilling to be vulnerable.

But you always invite us to step outside... to trust... and to embrace your new life.

Forgive our faintheartedness...
release us from our reluctance...
and inspire us to go and be and tell and do
your good news...

Silence is kept for personal confession.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

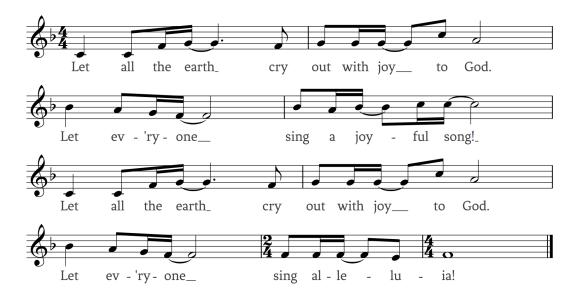
Acts 4:32-35

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66

The cantor sings the refrain once, then all repeat.



Shout with joy to God. Sing out and praise the holy name.

Say to God: "How wonderful and mighty are your deeds!" (refrain)

Come and see God's works. Come and proclaim God's wondrous ways. Leading his people safe through the sea, bringing them to life. (refrain)

Listen now to my song, you who fear God's holy name. God has heard my cry for help and given me new life. (refrain) THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Devoted Thomas
Rev. Phyllis Beattie

CHORAL RESPONSE

We Walk By Faith

We walk by faith and not by sight; although no gracious words we hear from Christ who spoke as no one ever spoke, we still believe that he is near.

We cannot touch his hands and side, nor follow where our Master trod; but still, by faith, in his promise we rejoice, and still proclaim, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith renewed abound, that we may call on you whenever you are near, and ever seek where you are found.

Thus, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clear and perfect light we may behold our Savior face to face, and know in full with endless sight.

We walk by faith until that day when faith shall be made sight.

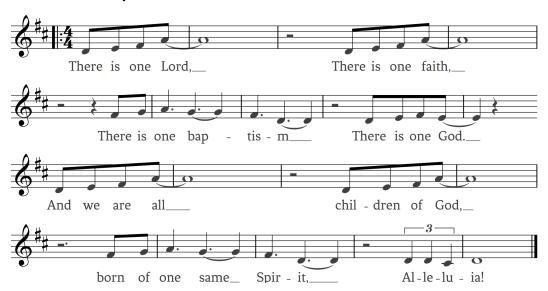
Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
and was raised to life three days later.
Afterwards he appeared to Mary and Peter,
to his followers,
to his brother, James,
and to all the apostles.
This we have received,
and this we believe!
Alleluia!
Amen!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST | STANDING

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.



BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

TABLE

CENTSABILITY COLLECTION / OFFERING

After the offering, the congregation stands and sings "Christ Is Risen" as the bread and juice are brought forward to the Lord's Table.



INVITATION TO THE TABLE | STANDING

This is the table of our risen Lord,

the table where we remember how he gave himself for us,

the table where we share the great feast of earth and heaven even now,

the table where we expect to meet Jesus.

Christ is here,

waiting for us,

inviting us to share this holy feast.

So whoever you are,

wherever you have been,

come and celebrate this holy feast this Easter season,

because Jesus is here

and invites us to join him in this feast.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | STANDING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Glorious God.

we give you thanks and praise,

for during this season all creation sings:

Christ is risen from the dead!

He has burst forth from the tomb

to break the tangles of despair and death.

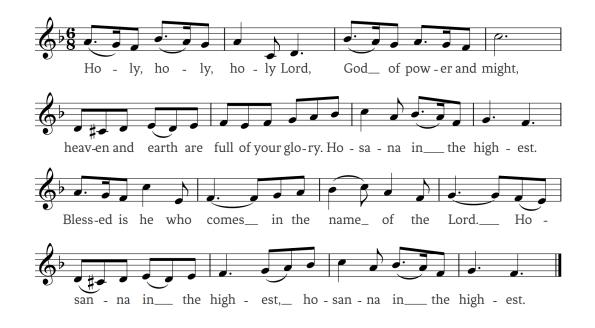
Love is come again.

Therefore we praise you,

joining our voices with those who stood at the empty tomb,

as well as those of every time and place,

singing our Easter joy...



With this bread and cup we remember Jesus,

his teaching and healing,

his living and dying,

his rising and ascending.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast,

and grace our table with your presence.

Be present, also, to our sisters and brothers

who cannot gather with us today because of illness, especially Jacob, Allison, Barbara, Joanne, Dave and Rebecca, Jack, Kenneth, Nicole, Wendy, Lee, and Sara.

Breathe new life into our world:

end all war,

mend your broken earth,

heal those who suffer,

comfort those who mourn, especially the family of Terry Anderson, and infuse us with your peace, rooted in justice.

All of this we ask, O Holy God, through the power of your Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who taught us to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER | STANDING

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 debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

The congregation is seated

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Please come forward by the center aisle to receive communion.

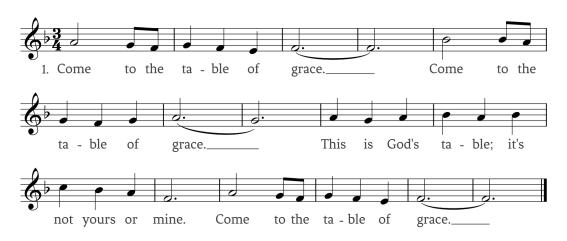
Once you have received, please return by the side aisles,

placing your cups in the baskets provided

The bread of life ... **Thanks be to God** *or* **Amen** The cup of salvation ... **Thanks be to God** *or* **Amen**

COMMUNION SONG

Come to the Table of Grace (next page)



- 2. Come to the table of love...
- 3. Come to the table of hope...
- 4. Come to the table of joy...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Risen Christ,
we thank you for this meal,
this season,
this gift of resurrection.
Send us out into your world
to be the presence of love and hope
to all who despair and fear,
that all may have life,
and life abundant.
Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Amen!

SENDING

HYMN 238 | STANDING

Thine Is the Glory

CHARGE AND BLESSING | STANDING

RECESSIONAL | STANDING

This Is The Day

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made. we will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

KNOWN IN THE BREAKING OF BREAD

WEEKLY COMMUNION THROUGHOUT EASTER

Alleluia! Christ is risen! One of my favorite Easter stories comes from the gospel of Luke. On that first Easter, two of Jesus' disciples were making their way back home to Emmaus, confused and wondering what had just happened. A stranger appeared and began to talk with them and explain the scriptures. When they arrived at their destination, the stranger sat down to dinner with them, took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them to eat (sound familiar?), then vanished. They recognized in that moment that it was Jesus who had been walking with them. When they told the story to the other disciples that said they knew Jesus "in the breaking of the bread."

One of the names for the sacrament of Holy Communion is the Breaking of the Bread.

The *Book of Common Worship* says that "the norm of Christian worship is to celebrate the Lord's Supper on each Lord's Day." Throughout the next Fifty Days, on the seven Sundays of Easter, we will be doing just that … breaking bread each time we gather for worship. And we know that when we do, the risen Christ will be present.

We would love to hear from you about your experience of communion throughout the Easter season. How have you experienced the presence of the

risen Lord in this sacrament? How has weekly communion during the Easter season enriched your experience of Sunday worship? You can email your comments to either Paul or Geoff throughout the season.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information about weekly Bible studies and small groups can be found in your weekly email or at winnpres.org. Sign up at winnpres.org to receive our weekly email.



OFFERING

- Scan QR code
- Offering plate in worship
- Online at winnpres.org

FIRST SUNDAYS @ WPC

On each First Sunday of the month, the young people of WPC help lead in our worship. We are thankful for the gift of joy they bring this morning.

PANCAKES AND PENTECOST: MAY 19

Mark your calendar! We will celebrate Pentecost with a pancake breakfast on May 19 following worship. The proceeds will help fund our Youth Mission Trip to Minneapolis this summer.

SERVING TODAY

Worship Leaders: Phyllis Beattie, Geoff Duffy

Greeters: Nancy Holly, Deacons Ushers: Clark Swartz-Oskielunas,

Christina Swartz

Lectors: Rive and Isaac Lewis

Communion Elements: Willem Hardin

Communion Servers: Andy Langan, Bill McNair, AnnMarie Hardin,

Madeline Weston

Musicians: Bryan Wlas, Daniel Rausch, Kyra Kornfeld, Shannon McMullen

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Geoff Duffy, Director of Music/Associate Director of Worship
Nancy Holly, Director of Children's Ministry/Youth Coordinator
Madeline Weston, Director of Office Management Ministries
Rev. Phyllis Beattie, Parish Associate
Greg Hartfield, Custodian

