

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 11, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

**PRELUDE** “Love Crucified Arose” -Michael Card

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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.

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

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord’s resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### FIRST READING *Acts 4:32–35*

The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE *1 John 1:1–2:2*

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one

another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL** *John 20:19–31*

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

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 anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.” 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 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.” 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **SERMON** John 20:19-29 “Peace from What?”

- I. Word Associating
  - Words that the Bible associates with peace: reconciliation, relationship, presence of God, well-being, contentedness, salvation, redemption, wholeness, cross, joyful assurance, gift of God, and new creation.
    - What ties these together?
- II. Forgiveness gives peace from \_\_\_\_\_ (v.19-20).
  - Why were the disciples fearful?
  - What upsets our peace?
  - What does Jesus say to them?
- III. Forgiveness gives peace from \_\_\_\_\_ (v.21-23).
  - What were the disciples like after Good Friday?
  - How do we know God’s not done with us yet?
- IV. Forgiveness gives peace from \_\_\_\_\_ (v.24-29).
  - Doubt is internal conflict. It is a lack of certainty and conviction.
  - Unbelief requires finding something to make one whole, to make one content.

- “He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye; He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul’s complaint. He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.”  
LSB 461:4-5

What do you associate with the following words? Is it a compliment or an opposite? Is it even related to the words that I will mention? Let’s start with our first one: *winter*. What comes to mind when you hear *winter*? What do you associate with it? Cold? Snow? Christmas? Darkness? Thick jackets and furry mittens? Let’s try another one: *baseball*. What do you associate with that? Fun? Boredom? America’s past time? A hot summer day? Peanuts, cracker jacks, and hot-dogs? With our minds warmed up, let’s try this one: *peace*. What do you associate with peace? Wholeness? Contentedness? Happiness? No problems or worries? Idleness? Nothingness? Relaxation? Maybe you think of an opposite: War. Sadness. Grief. Peace is a bit harder, isn’t it? It can be harder to pin down and define. The word peace can take us off in a variety of directions, can’t it? It is a very rich concept, especially in the Bible.

This week, I was reading a study on the word *peace* as it is used in the Bible. Want to hear some of the words that the Bible associates with peace? (You’ll hear them anyways.) Reconciliation. Relationship. Presence of God. Well-being. Contentedness. Salvation. Redemption. Wholeness. Cross. Joyful assurance. Gift of God. New Creation. That is a great variety of things associated with the word peace. Believe it or not, there is a common thread that ties all these things together, and we see it in our Gospel text. This morning, Jesus uses the word *peace* three times. Christ Is Risen! He is risen, indeed, Alleluia! In each instance, He is speaking a word of forgiveness. The bond that ties all three instances together, as well as those associations, is *forgiveness*. The bond of peace is forgiveness.

Some of those terms associated with peace in the Bible, terms like salvation, joyful assurance, and the presence of God, are the very opposite of *fear*. For the disciples, there was no peace for them on that first Easter evening. There was no peace for them after Good Friday. They were scared. All of them left Jesus in fear on Thursday evening in the Garden of Gethsemane. As Zechariah foretold, “Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will scatter,” and scatter they did. Only John remained. Peter followed at a distance and in the shadows but denied Jesus three times as Jesus said he would. Jesus was brutally tortured and crucified, and the disciples were scared that something similar would happen to them too. Worse yet, Jesus was dead and gone. They had no leader to make them feel secure. You can understand why the disciples were scared. Fear was running the show and disrupting peace.

What sort of fear upsets our peace? It is a fear of death? Maybe from our own illness or that of a loved one? It is always a little scary to have a loved one in surgery, isn’t it? It is a fear that some hidden sin might be uncovered by our parents or spouse? One that would humiliate us, or would ruin a life or relationship? Is it a fear for a job? A fear of failure, perhaps as a parent, child, or employee? We can have many fears that can upset or steal our peace.

Jesus returned from death to give peace from *fear*. Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! John says that Jesus suddenly “**stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’**” For Jesus’ appearance to give peace from fear, there had to be forgiveness. Remember, the disciples left Jesus for dead! Now that He was alive and glorified, He might be angry. He might have come back for the very purpose of taking revenge on His so-called “disciples.” They don’t know Jesus’ motive, but the disciples do know life: people don’t like it when you abandon them! More than the Jews, Jesus was the one they really had to fear.

Instead of speaking a word of rebuke, He says, “**Peace be with you!**” This was an absolution, plain and simple. Jesus forgives them for deserting and denying Him. All was forgotten. All was forgiven. Jesus came to them in peace, not in vengeance. The result? Peace from fear.

After Jesus speaks and shows them His wounds, they rejoiced. They knew their relationship with Jesus was restored. They had their Leader, their Lord, their Master back, and He wasn’t angry with them. They had nothing to fear.

Like them, we can rejoice, too. We have nothing to fear if Jesus isn’t angry with us, and He isn’t. We don’t have an angry God but a loving and merciful Savior. You are forgiven. Our desertions, including those secret sins, are forgiven. The One Who conquered death is with us to deliver us from death. The One Who now rules all things for the benefit of His Church will protect us, provide for us, and support us. The One Who

couldn't be kept out by a locked door will open new doors for us if some seem to close and lock behind us. As St. Paul boasts in Romans 8:31, **"If God is for us, then who can be against us?"** In Christ, God is for you. Forgiveness gives peace from fear. That isn't the only thing it gives peace from, either.

When you think about it, peace can't just be oblivion, idleness, or numbness. Eastern mysticism sees peace that way, like a Hindu Brahman in meditation saying, "Ommm." But, ask any retiree, if after a few months of sitting on the couch channel surfing for the next 25 years sounds peaceful, and you will probably get a different answer. No, peace is like some of those other words that the Bible associates with it: relationship. Reconciliation. Cross.

The disciples certainly felt no peace as they were idly sitting by. They were helpless, numb, immobilized, paralyzed by Jesus' death. On Friday, their world had been shattered and imploded. Their hopes and dreams had been crushed, pulverized. Their future would be nothing as they envisioned it. They were the prime recruits and people to take Jesus' Kingdom to the ends of the world, but they sat there in that locked room, helpless. This wasn't peace. It wasn't security. It was *turmoil*. It was a rush of conflicting thoughts running through their heads and nothing else on which to focus.

We know what that can be like, can't we? Sometimes we can feel numb, helpless, unable, or unsure of how to fulfill our purpose. There is a whole world out there that needs Jesus' peace, and we want to share it. However, what do we do, and how to do it? Our own consciences nag at us, and that is no peace. Fortunately, Jesus gave His disciples peace by making them sharers of peace, His forgiveness. Verse 21 says, **"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.'"** This peace was Jesus' way of saying these idlers were still precious, and useful, to Him. He was not done with them yet, not at all! He breathes on them the Holy Spirit, and sends them as He has been sent. Jesus' word of peace was their forgiveness, and now they had the power to share that same forgiveness with a world that so desperately needs it. The result? Peace from helplessness.

And you know what? He isn't done with you, either! You have been given the Holy Spirit at your baptism, where you were claimed as God's beloved child, and given His precious gifts. We're no longer helpless. We have the forgiveness of Jesus earned on the cross and given to us by His Word of peace to announce to all. We share it with the people we live with, by, and among. This word of peace that we share is a word that is life giving, life changing, life altering, life transforming, and a life restoring word. It is a word that removes guilt and shame, and one that frees from the paralysis of sin. Forgiveness gives peace from helplessness. It gives peace from one more thing as well.

Let's recall a few more of those words associated with peace. Contentedness. Wholeness. Well-being. Aren't these the opposite of doubt and unbelief? Doubt means internal conflict. It is a lack of certainty or conviction. Unbelief requires finding something to make one whole, to make one content. That is where poor Thomas was for a terrible week. Can you imagine the emptiness, the void he experienced? To him, Jesus was still "crucified, died, and was buried." There was no "on the third He rose again from the dead" in his creed. It ended a sentence before. While the other apostles were rejoicing, he was not. His unbelief gave him no peace. It only gave him great grief and suffering.

We can understand Thomas, don't we? We are more like him than we would ever want to think or admit. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and even that He has given us eternal life in heaven someday. Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed, alleluia! But do we really, always, believe the hope summarized in the hymn "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"? Stanzas four and five say: "He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye; He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's complaint/ He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart." Do we believe that? Today? Tomorrow? Thursday? Or do our doubts leave us with no peace, just like Thomas?

Jesus returned to Thomas to bring him peace. John says that **"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.'"** Peace is the remedy, forgiveness. Jesus forgave Thomas' unbelief. He returned to make Thomas whole, to give him the contentedness of faith. The result? Peace from unbelief and doubts. The apostle confessed with joy: **"My Lord and my God!"**

We can be content, whole in faith just as surely. **"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed!"** Jesus has forgiven our doubts and unbelief, and He keeps coming back to us with His Word and

Sacraments to give us the peace and forgiveness we so desperately need! In them, and through them, we always have forgiveness, peace with God. We have a God that loves and forgives us, even as we wrestle with doubt and unbelief. We have a God Who still provides for us, even if we might doubt that He does.

When you think about it, forgiveness is the common bond that ties all these concepts of peace together. True peace, as the Bible describes it, is always a product of the restored relationship between God and man, and that is only a result of the forgiveness that Christ has won for us. It might be useful for all of us to do some word associating with the word *peace*. Consider all the ways and situations we'd like to experience peace in our lives, whether that be in our homes, in our minds, in our friendships, or in our walk with God. Then consider how the forgiveness of Jesus, won on Good Friday, proclaimed on Easter, is key. Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

#### **HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" LSB 469**

- 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"  
Saints on earth and angels say;  
Raise your joys and triumphs high;  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.
- 2 Love's redeeming work is done,  
Fought the fight, the battle won;  
Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er;  
Lo! He sets in blood no more.
- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise;  
Christ has opened paradise.
- 4 Lives again our glorious King!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Once He died our souls to save;  
Where thy victory, O grave?
- 5 Soar we now where Christ has led;  
Foll'wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!  
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

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#### **HOLY BAPTISM**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Our Lord commanded Baptism, saying to His disciples in the last chapter of Matthew: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." The holy apostles of the Lord have written: "The promise is for you and for your children," and: "Baptism now saves you."

We also learn from the Word of God that we are all conceived and born sinful and so are in need of forgiveness. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Receive the sign of the holy cross upon your forehead and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

Hear how our Lord describes baptism in Romans 6:1-11. "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Pastor: In order to implore the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ upon the gathering of this person into the family of our Father, let us with all the family pray the prayer he gave us.

**People: 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.**

Pastor: The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even forevermore.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: We shall all, together with Chastiti and Sophie, faithfully speak in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Baptism. Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**People: I do renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**People: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**People: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: Yes, 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.**

Pastor: Chastiti / Sophie, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting. Peace be with you.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Receive this burning light. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him to the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

Let us pray: Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Chastiti and Sophie the new birth in Holy Baptism and

made them members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. Look with kindness upon these new children of the kingdom.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has added Chastiti and Sophie to his own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**People: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.**

Pastor: And you, Chastiti and Sophie, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forward and even forevermore. Peace be with you.

**People: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

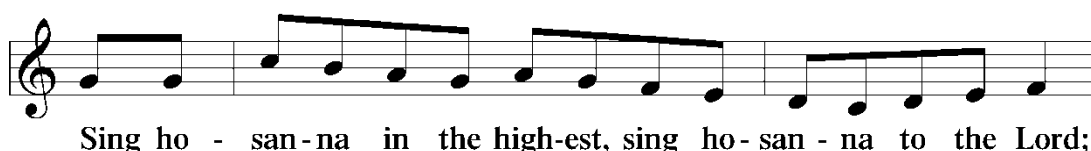
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: We give You thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, almighty and eternal Father, through Jesus Christ, whose death upon the cross has made possible the forgiveness of our sins and accomplished our salvation. Open the eyes of faith that we, who confess the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, may be delivered from death and brought into the light of Your presence forevermore. Recalling Thomas and how our Savior met him in the prison of his doubt, we rejoice that You have come to us this day with the voice of the Gospel upon our ears and soon the taste of our Lord's body and blood upon our lips, in anticipation of the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom without end. With Thomas and the witnesses of our Lord's resurrection and all the saints and angels on high, we join in their unending hymn of praise:

### SANCTUS



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## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him. Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

## **MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**

## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**



## **CLOSING HYMN** “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” *LSB* 461

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living head.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;  
He lives eternally to save;  
He lives all-glorious in the sky;  
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 He lives to bless me with His love;  
He lives to plead for me above;  
He lives my hungry soul to feed;  
He lives to help in time of need.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;  
He lives to guide me with His eye;  
He lives to comfort me when faint;  
He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;  
He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart;  
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav’nly friend;  
He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I’ll sing;  
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

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## **POSTLUDE**

### **Acknowledgments**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GENEROSITY THOUGHTS:** *John 20:19* – “*Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’*” The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us – not our works – we are now free to do good works. Good works shouldn’t be done out of self-interest but for the right reasons – out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

**THE HOLY BAPTISM** of Sophie and Chastiti E will take place during our service today. God’s richest blessings to Sophie, Chastiti, and their family!

**EASTER DECORATING PARTICIPANTS 2021:** Thank you to Gary & Renata, Jean G, Donna & Mike, and Ken for helping decorate Emmaus for our Easter celebration. The Easter flowers beautify the church as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY:** Wednesdays we will have a prayer and Bible Study group. Please check with Pastor Kooi for the current start time. Each week, we will gather together to pray and study a text. We will be meeting in-person and virtually. For those that attend virtually, we will have you join us via Zoom (contact Pastor Kooi for the link). Please contact Pastor Kooi for more details.

**HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “What It Means to Be a Family” Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gerard Bolling. Loving, caring, and sharing—it’s what we do as God’s family, His Church. (Acts 4:32-35)