

Easter Vigil April 11, 2020 7:00 p.m.

University Lutheran Church of Hope is a welcoming, Christian community of faith centered on God's grace and called to demonstrate God's love for the world. University Lutheran Church of Hope is a Reconciling in Christ congregation and a Sanctuary congregation.

Welcome. Peace be with you.

Welcome to all who are joining us virtually. In this time of social distancing and COVID-19 pandemic response, we are grateful for the opportunity to gather in spirit.

Children are welcome in worship. Kids, grab your SPARK Story Bibles and set up your craft tables!

In our service tonight, we will share **Holy Communion**. If you'd like to participate, please have bread and wine or juice available.

We welcome your feedback as we experiment with livestreaming worship! What works or doesn't work? What should we try? Our contact info is on the back page of this bulletin.

During today's service, **use the comments section** on Zoom or livestream to share prayer concerns. Tonight, these will not be included in the spoken Prayers of the People.

A toolkit for tonight's service and the remaining services in Holy Week is available on our website, www.ulch.org

Today's Livestream Worship Leaders:

Pastors Jen Nagel and Barbara Johnson (ministers); Zach Busch, Haruka Yukioka (music); Nick Tangen (greeter); Dan Bielenberg and James Flaten (tech facilitators)

Gathering

We gather for worship on the land of our Creator, the traditional home of the Dakota people, and a land over which the Anishinaabeg people and others also moved. They gathered and ate food, rested, died and gave birth, and prayed here, and many still do.

Assembly parts are marked in **bold**.

WELCOME

BLESSING THE NEW FIRE

PASCHAL CANDLE INSCRIPTION

The Paschal Candle is inscribed with symbols of God's reign over eternal time.

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PASSING THE CHRIST LIGHT

The Paschal Candle is lit from the new fire. Then, we all light our candles. Keep your candles lit throughout the service.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word

FIRST READING – Creation (Katie Hale and Micki Kruse)

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

RESPONSE – Great Is Thy Faithfulness, stanza 1





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PRAYER

Let us pray. Mother, O God, your creation is very good: the darkness of this church, the light of your life, our birth in these waters, your image in us all. O good mother, O God, we rest in you. **Amen.**

SECOND READING – The Flood Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 (Eric Ringham and Ann Wagner)

RESPONSE – Though the Earth Shall Change



Text: Rolf Vegdahl and Tom Witt, based on Psalm 46 Music: Tom Witt $% \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{S}}$

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PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, your wrath is short; your favor lasts a lifetime. We walk hopefully toward the promise of Joy coming in the morning. In the deluge of your mercy, flood us with your visionary power to see beyond the raging stormcloud. Open our eyes to see that in the blessed, holy ark of planet earth, we are all in this together. Unfurl your promise in the skies. In the coo of the dove, in the plumpness of a green leaf, remind us that all shall be well. **Amen.** **THIRD READING –** Deliverance at the Red Sea Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21 (The Carlson Family – Jay, Kristen, Beatrice, Malena)

RESPONSE – "Come and Go With Me"

PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, save all whom oppression drowns. Wash away injustice. With Miriam we sing to the majestic mercy of your baptismal waters. And this time, O God, we implore you: save also the Egyptians in your mercy, wider and deeper than all the oceans of the earth. **Amen.**

FOURTH READING - Salvation Freely Offered to All (Mary Ann Teske) Isaiah 55:1-11



RESPONSE – Still Waters

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Text and music: Rolf Vegdahl, based on Psalm 23

PRAYER

Let us pray. O Lady Wisdom, God of the laughing waters, we laud your light, we follow your path, we feast at your table. By your words, which are meat and drink indeed, give us the wisdom that comes only from you. Amen.

FIFTH READING – The Valley of Dry Bones (Ann and John Beane)

Ezekiel 37:1-14

RESPONSE – Send Forth Your Spirit

Sung once through in unison, then sung in canon with entrances as marked.



PRAYER

Let us pray. Fresh water to thirsty ears, fresh strength to dead bones, breath of life to our lost hope; In the midst of death, we hear your promise of new life. Open the grave for all your people, O word from the whirlwind, and bring us home. Amen.

SIXTH READING – Jonah and the Whale Jonah 1:1-2:1 (The Rowan Family – Jillian, Jim, Niibin, Bimose)

RESPONSE – In the Lord I'll be Ever Thankful



PRAYER

Let us pray. Your anger is the storm of justice, O God, and we are apt to drown in our violence. But you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and quick to relent. Look upon the city you have made and all your creatures who dwell there, and save us, Endless Grace. **Amen.**

SEVENTH READING - Deliverance from the Fiery Furnace (Evan Peterson) Daniel 3:1-29

RESPONSE – Canticle of Creation

The assembly repeats this refrain after each short cantor verse.



PRAYER

Let us pray. O Deliverance, better than idols of our own hands, better than the voices of our own instruments, better than the decrees of our own imaginations; you put on our flesh to hang on a cross for us. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, bread for the world, wine for the celebration, lamb for the end of time. You who endured the flames of our death, dress us in the garments of your resurrection, in the name of Christ, in the life of Christ, your living one. **Amen.**

Baptismal Remembrance

+THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

During this prayer, use your hand or a glass to add movement to your water.

Holy and most generous God, river of life, gladsome stream, sacred confluence, we praise you for the gift of water.

You surround the planet earth with a halo, poised, delicate in its design. In the cycle of water's evaporation and precipitation we see a glimpse of resurrection.

We marvel at the ocean's depths, beautifully dark, where bioluminous creatures and microorganisms thrive, suspended in the rich mysterious substance of the unknown.

Whales breach, seals play, beavers build, waterfalls cascade in endless evolution, becoming beauty, reminding us to rejoice and splash in the water.

Upon bushfires, through serpentine hose and from the full bucket, we spray and pour this precious substance crying mercy, mercy. We cower in the passion of the hurricane, in the terror tide of the tsunami, in the anxious rise of the flood. We are reminded of your divine power to destroy and rebuild.

And under our feet the stoic aquifer, quiet reservoir, always providing, slowly depleting, asking us to turn inward and look for the infinite source of justice just beneath the surface.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God.... In these gladsome waters we walk through struggle to freedom we weather the storm under your protection we hear our name and know who we are.

Amidst all this water, this mist of salvation, we are warm, drenched like a child at bathtime, buoyant, beloved.

For this gift of water, for this ritual of baptism, for this testament of your love in our midst, grace upon grace upon grace upon grace, we thank you, we worship you, we cry, "glory!" Alleluia. Amen.

+REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Beloved in Christ, in Holy Baptism our Savior Jesus Christ received you and made you members of the Church, giving you gifts of faith, love, life, and forgiveness. Remember now your Baptism, that you may daily die to sin and rise to new life in Christ. **Amen.**

You are invited to dip your hand in the water and make the sign of the cross on your or another's

forehead, using words such as, "Remember that you are a beloved child of God."

Join in humming "Borning Cry."



Word Renewed

READING

Romans 6:3-5, adapted

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

During the acclamation and any time after, wave your Alleluia banner in front of your camera!





GOSPEL READING

John 20: 1-18, adapted

The Gospel of according to St. John, the twentieth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord. Alleluia.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "I am ascending to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

HYMN – I Know That My Redeemer Lives! st.1, 2 During the hymn, put on your brightly colored accessory if you have one!

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.And also with you.Y también contigo.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ in whatever way is comfortable, using these or similar words 'Peace be with you'' or 'La paz del Señor''

Meal

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity. Offerings can be sent electronically or by mail. Information on the last page of the bulletin.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

As we prepare for the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we welcome you to place the bread and wine or grape juice near you. Exceptional times like global pandemics call for exceptional measures. This is not our normal practice and yet our congregation's staff and leadership have discerned that we will share Holy Communion and our Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop, Ann Svennungsen, has made space for this. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the edge-less table of Christ, your table is a part of Christ's.

God be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.** Let us give thanks to our gracious God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right...join their unending hymn:

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, stanza 2

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING COMMUNION

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in Holy Communion with gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are invited to partake. By our participation in this meal, we are strengthened in faith and in life. All are welcome to commune.

If you are sitting with others, when sharing the bread with someone, say to them: "This is the body of Christ, given for you." When sharing the wine or grape juice, say, "This is the blood of Christ, shed for you." If you aren't with others, today, hear the voice of the pastor naming these promises of grace and life for you. If you'd prefer a blessing, hear these promises: "You are a beloved child of God. May God strengthen you with grace through Christ for all we face today."

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



Be Not Afraid



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TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Mighty and compassionate God, you have brought us over from death to life through your Son, our risen Savior. You have fed us with the food of life. Send us out now in peace, and grant us courage to love and serve you and this world. Amen.

SENDING HYMN – I Know That My Redeemer Lives! st.3-4

BENEDICTION

The blessing of God Almighty, the blessing of ± Christ the Risen Savior, and the blessing of the Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Go in peace. Share this good news. Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

FESTIVE FELLOWSHIP

Staff at University Lutheran Church of Hope

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