

## **Worship Plan for Sunday, April 01, 2018**

Easter Day

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

ELW Holy Communion Setting One

Sunday, April 01, 2018

### **Introduction to the day**

This year may be the one in which John's resurrection account is likely to be chosen over Mark's, perhaps because Mark's gospel ends so abruptly, with astonishment and fear rather than joyful proclamation. Yet Mark may speak to our experience more directly than the other gospels. Corinthians and Acts fill out the story by telling of appearances of the risen Christ. Peter says we "ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead." And so do we, in a foretaste of the mountaintop feast where death will be no more.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Acts.

*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to the Gentiles just as it had to Jews.*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (*Ps. 118:24*)

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;  
God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel | now declare,**  
**“God’s mercy en- | dures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength | and my song,  
and has become | my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**

**“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**

- <sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!  
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”
- <sup>17</sup>**I shall not | die, but live,  
and declare the works | of the LORD. R**
- <sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,  
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.
- <sup>19</sup>**Open for me the | gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**
- <sup>20</sup>“This is the gate | of the LORD;  
here the righ- | teous may enter.”
- <sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me  
and you have become | my salvation. R**
- <sup>22</sup>The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
has become the chief | cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has | this been done;  
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**
- <sup>24</sup>This is the day that the | LORD has made;

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

*The core of the Christian faith and Paul’s preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the risen Lord in the preaching of this faith.*

- <sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,  
<sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.
- <sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,  
<sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to

the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

<sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

On this day of rejoicing, we pray for the life of the church, the world, and all people in any need.

*A brief silence.*

You give life to your church by joining the baptized to the body of Christ. Bless the newly baptized (*especially*) as we proclaim the one whose death and resurrection makes us one in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give life to the creation by renewing the earth in every season. Curb our exploitation of natural resources, and cause us to preserve the health of plant and animal habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give life to the world by laying a cornerstone among the nations. Rebuild the powers and principalities around us in ways that protect the vulnerable and raise up the lowly. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give life to those in need by the anointing of your Holy Spirit. Comfort those who suffer, encourage those who care for the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and wipe away the tears of all who mourn. We pray especially for . . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give life to this community of faith by infusing us with love for one another. Inspire us to reach out to our neighbors in meaningful ways and bring the joys of community to a wider family of people. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You give life to your saints by setting a banquet table of rich food. Feed us with the bread of life and bring us with all your saints to the feast that has no end. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the spring of new and everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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