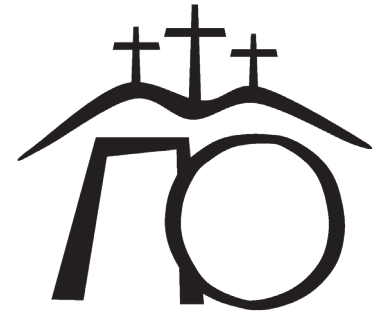


Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

Resurrection of Our Lord - Easter Sunrise (Year A)

This day brings us joy and renewed hope as we celebrate the miracle of all miracles: Jesus is risen from the dead, alleluia! The whole church, in heaven and on earth, sings of God's glorious power and rejoices that death no longer has the last word. Jesus has triumphed, and we who believe are promised eternity. That promise is our future hope, but it also guides our lives in the present as we are freed from sin.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: Exodus 14:10—15:1

Red Sea Rescue

The writer of Exodus recalls the rescue of the Hebrew slaves from Pharaoh, who promised to leave them alone after the deadly Passover event. Going back on his word, the Egyptian king sends his army after the slaves, who left reluctantly and in fear for their lives. God delivers them as they pass dry-shod through the Red Sea and the Egyptian army is swallowed up in the crashing waters.

Psalms 118:15-29

Chief Cornerstone

Discipline in the psalmist's life does not lead to death but rather to a new life of salvation for which he gives thanks and praise. From the line of David, the Lord has made One who is the chief cornerstone; even though this stone is rejected by many, it will be the stability and structure for God's people.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Resurrection Truth

Paul proclaims Christ's death and resurrection and subsequent appearance to the disciples and many others, including Paul himself. His former life of punishing the church has been met with grace in Jesus Christ for which he now dedicates his entire being, as he fervently shares the good news everywhere he journeys.

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Early Morning Encounter

As she goes to the tomb of Jesus to anoint his body after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene finds it empty except for two angels and someone she thinks is the gardener. When he says her name, Mary instantly knows the man is Jesus, her Lord.

Suggestions for the Day:

Liturgical Color: White

During the Season of Easter:

- Use the Kyrie.
- Use the Hymn of Praise
- Use the Nicene Creed.

Bring out the hidden "alleluias" with the children today. Recall how they were put away during Lent, but now in this joyful season they are brought back into worship.

Create banners for Easter that use the words of Good Friday, but with the images of the empty tomb, lilies, and the sun. For example: "Come down from the cross," or "Let him save himself," or "What is truth?"

There are Easter day skits on the Easter seasonal page of SOWeR.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds	135	---	464	366	157	157
The Strife is O'er	143	---	465	367	159	159
Jesus Christ is Risen Today	151	---	457	365	---	web
Now the Green Blade Rises	148	---	---	379	---	---
Christ is Risen, Alleluia	131	---	---	382	---	---
Christ the Lord is Risen Today	128	---	463	369	151	151
Alleluia Sing to Jesus	158	---	458	370	154	154
Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands	134	---	638	492	---	---
In the Garden	---	---	---	---	160	160
Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises	---	722	---	535	---	---

*The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The Reclaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."*

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

Rising Sun
(CCLI # 6364759)
Great Are You Lord
(CCLI# 6460220)
Resurrecting
(CCLI# 7051507)
Because He Lives (Amen)
(CCLI# 7027887)
King of Kings
(CCLI# 7127647))

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.