

## **1<sup>st</sup> Peter Sermon Series for the Easter Season**



# **Easter's Elect Exiles**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**April 26, 2020**

**Guest Pastor: The Rev. Kris Whitby**

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## **Today's Guest Pastor**

### **Rev. Kris Whitby**

Assistant to the President

-Mission & Ministry

Northern Illinois District

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Rev. Kris Whitby served the past 16 years as pastor at Saint Paul, Mt. Prospect, and during that time he also was honored to serve as our District's North region's Vice President. He and his wife, Marguerita live in Palatine and are still celebrating that their son and daughter were both married this past year. In February Pastor Kris was installed as Assistant to the President – Mission and Ministry for the NID where he works with President Buss and our district's congregations to promote our district's threefold ministry focus of Word, Wellness, and Witness.

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## ***WORSHIP SCHEDULE***

***(UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)***

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Livestream

Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Zoom

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,  
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist, David Ziegler - Handbell Director

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## ***THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW SERVICE***

*Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Matthew's Gospel.*

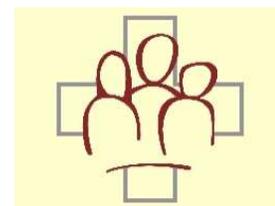
*Matthew is the focus of Year A Gospel readings in the Lectionary.*

### ***Encouragement in the Time of a Pandemic***

***All: We will get through this.***

***We will get through this together.***

***We will get through this by the grace and mercy of God.***



**Opening Hymn      Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

LSB 469 sts. 1, 4-6



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
5 Soar we now where Christ has led; Fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head.  
6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.  
Thee we greet tri - um - phant now: Hail, the res - ur - rec - tion, Thou!

**Invocation (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to Me all who are weary, and I will give You rest.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me.

For I am gentle and lowly in heart."

C: **For You have promised we will find rest for our souls.**

P: For His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

C: **Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution (Matthew 22:34-40; 19:16-26; 18:13-14, 19-20; 20:28)**

P: When asked "Teacher, what is the great commandment in the Law?", Jesus said,

C: **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.**

**And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

P: Jesus said, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor,  
and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

C: **This brings us sorrow, Lord,**

**Because we treasure many things which are not focused on You.**

**Who then can be saved?**

P: Jesus declares, "With people this is impossible,  
but with God all things are possible."

He rejoices more over finding one lost sheep than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. It is not His will that one of you should perish.

**C: For the Lord has promised:**

**Where two or three are gathered in His Name,  
He is among us with His forgiveness.**

P: Indeed, He is here in the power of His forgiveness for you today.

He comes not to be served  
but to serve, to give His life as a ransom for you.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you  
all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis (based on Matthew 20:28)**

LSB 971, st. 2

2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;  
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.  
Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,  
And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff begins with a '2' indicating a second ending. The second staff has a 'trajain' marking under the first few notes. The music concludes with a double bar line.

### **Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Anthem****He Lives****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

*I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;  
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.  
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need him, he's always near.*

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.*

*In all the world around me I see his loving care,  
And though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.  
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;  
The day of his appearing will come at last.*

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.*

*Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;  
None other is so loving, so good and kind.*

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.*

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**Acknowledgements**

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires;  
with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuit 1 of the Northern Illinois District (LCMS).  
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**Old Testament**

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .  
“<sup>36</sup>Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup>And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” <sup>40</sup>And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” <sup>41</sup>So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle (New Testament Letter)**

**1 Peter 1:17-25 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup>If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, <sup>18</sup>knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup>He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, <sup>21</sup>who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup>Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup>since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

<sup>24</sup>for     *“All flesh is like grass  
                  and all its glory like the flower of grass.  
The grass withers,  
                  and the flower falls,  
                  <sup>25</sup>but the word of the Lord remains forever.”*

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

# Song of Praise

# Easter Song



Hear the bells ring-ing, they're sing-ing that we can be born a - gain! \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ Hear the bells ring - ing, they're sing - ing Christ



is ris - en from the dead! \_\_\_\_\_ The



an - gel up on the tomb-stone said, \_ He is ris - en



just as He said. Quick - ly now, go tell His dis - ci - ples that



Je - sus Christ is no long - er dead! \_\_\_\_\_ Joy



to the world, He is ris - en, al - le - lu -



-ia! He's ris - en, al - le - lu - ia! He's ris -



-en, al - le - lu - ia \_\_\_\_\_ al - le -



-lu - ia. \_\_\_\_\_ al -



-le - lu - ia! \_\_\_\_\_

## **Holy Gospel**

## **Luke 24:13–35 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup>That very day two of [the disciples] were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup>But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup>So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup>but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” <sup>33</sup>And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup>saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn of the Day**

**O Sons and Daughters of the King**

LSB 470 sts. 1-3, 9



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly  
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful  
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and  
9 On this most ho - ly day of days Be laud and



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!  
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.  
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."  
ju - bi - lee and praise: To God your hearts and voic - es raise.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**Sermon**

**"Ransomed from futility,  
Purified to love,  
Born of imperishable seed!"**

**1 Peter 1:17-25**

**Confession of Faith from Matthew 11:2-6; 16:13-16**

P: When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

C: **Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see:  
the blind receive their sight and the lame walk,  
lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear,  
and the dead are raised up,  
and the poor have good news preached to them.  
And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."**

P: Jesus asked His disciples, using the title “Son of Man” to speak about Himself,  
 “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”  
 And the disciples said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah,  
 and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”  
 Then He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
 And I also ask you, disciples here today, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”

C: **Simon Peter replied,**  
**and we also say,**  
**“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Amen.**

**Response (Based on Matthew 19:28, 12:18-21)**

LSB 920 sts.2,5; tune: 616

2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings; King - ship with  
 5 We are the Church: Christ bids us show That in His  
 Him His ser - vants gain; With Christ the Ser - vant  
 Church all na - tions find Their hearth and home where  
 - Lord of all, Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.  
 Christ re - stores True peace, true love to all man - kind.

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**The Lord's Invitation (based on Matthew 21:1-11; 26:2; 3:17; 17:15; 25:34)**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: The Lord sent His prophet to say to the people of Zion, Jerusalem,  
 ‘Behold, your king is coming to you,  
 humble, and mounted on a donkey.’”  
 And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him saying:

C: **“Hosanna to the Son of David!**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**  
**Hosanna in the highest!”**

P: The whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said,

**C: “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”**

P: But Jesus was not just another one of the prophets,  
as God the Father declared at His Baptism:

**C: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”**

P: And God the Father reminded the disciples again at His Transfiguration:

**C: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.”**

P: Then Jesus reminded the disciples in Jerusalem that “the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” And He extends this invitation: “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

### ***Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)***

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

**C: And also with you.**

- Please share the peace of the Lord with any family members at home.
- If you are on the Facebook Live page, please share the Lord’s peace in the comments.

### ***Prayers***

#### ***The Lord’s Prayer***

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**

#### ***Closing Prayer (Based on Matthew 1:22-23; 2:5-6; 3:17; 3:16)***

P: Lord, all this has taken place to fulfill what You had spoken by the prophet, “They shall call His Name Immanuel—God with us.” And it was also written, “From Bethlehem... shall come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.” Jesus came preaching, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” and now we are the people dwelling in darkness who have seen a great light, those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, and on us a light has dawned in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in His body and blood given to us.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Matthew 28:18-20)**

P: As Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, He says to you,  
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

C: Amen.

**Closing Hymn**

**He's Risen, He's Risen**

LSB 480 sts. 1, 4-5



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
△ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.  
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;  
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.  
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.  
With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

**Announcements**