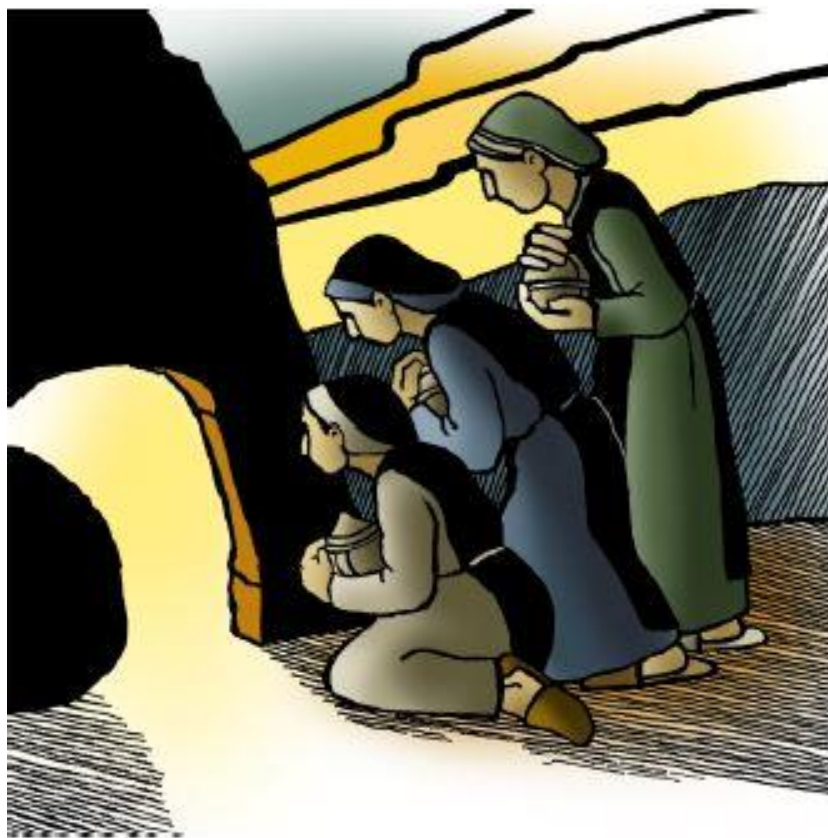


**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
13564 St. Andrews Drive
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(562) 598-8697**

**e-mail: redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net
website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com**



***Holy Communion Service
Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024***

Easter BLESSINGS

PRELUDE

played by organist

PIANO DUET

Cedric Elmer and Sharon Heck

“Praise to the Lord” and “Hallelujah! Praise Ye the Lord”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 151

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, and the giver of our joy.

C **Amen.**

P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for this well-spring of life.

C We give you thanks, O God, for the seas and streams, lakes and lochs, pools and ponds are the lifeblood of all living things.

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as people of new life and resurrection. We rejoice with gladdened hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Behold, a well-spring of love!

C Water is a gift of life and a sign of new life! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us seek the healing grace and love of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of our human imperfection into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Our lives and our world are in need of your forgiveness. Raise us to new life in Christ, O God. Renew us as you make all things new. Rescue us from failings and fallings. Restore us by your grace, and reconcile us that we may live with you, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

P Let us rejoice with all creation! The light and love of the risen Christ cleanses us from all that would keep us from God. Jesus Christ loves us and + sets us free from the errors of our ways. Alleluia!

C Alleluia! Amen!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ. Help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of life with you that never ends, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD’S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God brings life out of death. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. We gather today to witness, praise, proclaim, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In the word and the sacramental feast, we celebrate God's unending love, as God sends us forth to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 10 verses 34-43

Peter’s preaching crosses the religious and social boundaries that separated people in his day in order to proclaim all message of hope for all--the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to the people: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118, selected verses

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

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁷I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Second Lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verses 1-11

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 One in the preaching of this faith.

¹Now 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, ²through 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.

³For 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, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But 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. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

(Congregation stands and sings “*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*” following the Second Reading.)



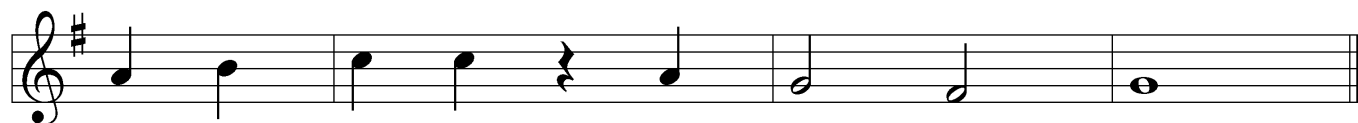
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Caribbean traditional

Music: HALLE, HALLE, Caribbean traditional

The Gospel Lesson from Mark chapter 16 verses 1-8

The day of Jesus' resurrection begins with questions and wonderment, with alarm and words of hope. The faithful woman and first eyewitnesses are filled with both fear and amazement.

¹When 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. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But 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. ⁷But 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." ⁸So 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 of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ



SERMON

Bishop Murray Finck

"Words We May Never Forget"

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

THE NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”

OFFERING PRAYER

P Risen Lord, you call us to believe and tell the story of your grace. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Help us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW [Green Book] Page 71

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited by the ushers to come forward to receive Communion. If you are unable to come to the altar, Communion will be brought to you in the pew. We believe Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. Anyone with any questions may speak with the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains grape juice.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

C Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this heavenly banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 352

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

played by organist

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Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray D. Finck

Organist: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *Lilies.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

President: Bishop Murray D. Finck

Communion Assistant Carmen Leslie

Acolyte Sylvia Makus

Reader / Prayer Leader: Jerry Brady

Financial Team: Wendy Alfageme and Phyllis Mackey

THIS WEEK – HOLY WEEK

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Communion Service

Redeemer Finance: March Offering through March 24, 2024

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$7,308.00
Offering	<u>\$6,800.00</u>
Needed to meet expenses	\$508.00

CHURCH COUNCIL

President Kay Pushman, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme,

Secretary Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance Chair** Doris Weinert

Members at Large, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero, Sylvia Makus, and Michael Vanvales

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Dena, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Jerry, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Ken, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Gil, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Anita, Norma, Lathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Anne, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darlene, Sharon, Danota, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Bill, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Maeve, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, Sands, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Wendy. Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian and Israel/Hamas conflicts, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements



† Welcome and Happy Easter Sunday to everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors. Visitors are invited to fill out a card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Everyone is invited down to the Fellowship Hall after Service for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!).

† Thank you, and again, thank you, to everyone who made our Lent and Holy Week Services so fulfilling. It is a blessing that we have so many people willing to volunteer and work together to bring this special holy season to life. We send special thanks to God for Bishop Murray Finck for his tireless effort to arrange classes for new members, Soup Supper studies, and our Holy Week Services including our own Good Friday Service.

- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!
- † Great news: We are planning to begin Bible Study again. We will be meeting on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon for about one hour. Everyone is invited to join us. Bring your Bible and maybe a friend or two! Bishop Murray Finck will be leading the Bible Study.
- † If you are having a little problem with hearing on Sundays, please remember that there are speakers in the ceiling light fixtures so sitting closer to one of those may help.
- † Pastor Gil Moore is now at Rowntree gardens Elmwood Room #24; 1251 Dale St.; Stanton, CA 90680. His cell number is (562) 547-8677. Kay Pushman has a sign-up sheet to coordinate phone calls to him, twice a day, so we do not tire him too much.
- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!

- † The NEW Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication. If you take the flowers in the plastic holders, please return the holders. We try to reuse them and are currently out of them.
- † Due to Holy Week needs, the newsletter for April is not ready yet! Stay tuned and we will get it to you as soon as possible! Watch the Announcements in the bulletin for current updates.
- † Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: www.redeemerasealbeach.com. It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, or the midweek communiqué from the pastor, please put your email address on the attendance sheet in the pew pocket and put it in the collection plate, so we can add you or correct the address we have.