

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

(Recognizing that Holy Communion is a sacred act, if you have not previously spoken with a Pastor about communion, we ask that you do so before attending the Lord's Supper. See the note on page 2 for more information.)

HYMN 442 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!*

HYMN 444 *Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won*

Stand

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

St Paul encourages: "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves full to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:55-58)

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Be seated

HYMN: 445 *He's Risen, He's Risen*

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Easter Dawn

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lansing, MI

April 5th, 2026



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Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul J. Lindloff *Pastor Joel A. Voss*

Notes for Visitors:

- **Welcome!** If you are a guest this morning, please fill out a cream colored card. These cards are placed in every pew. One side of the card is for members receiving communion, the other side is for visitors. You may place the card in the collection plate. Feel free to also speak with one of the pastors to introduce yourself or ask any questions.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway north of the sanctuary.
- **Difficulty hearing?** Tune headphones to 103.3FM (closed circuit broadcast of service). Ask for a portable FM radio and headphones if you need some.
- **Difficulty reading small print?** Magnifying readers with light are available by the bookshelf in the narthex and in the ramp by the pulpit.
- **Nursery Room:** If you need a quiet place for your children, we have a room near the church offices. If you need help finding the room, please ask an usher for assistance.
- **Hymnals:** Use the blue hymn books in the rack ahead of your pew to follow along in the service. If you need help or guidance, please ask someone nearby to assist you.
- **Bibles:** Available at the bookshelf in the narthex and on the ramp by the pulpit.
- **Holy Communion:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion (The Lord’s Supper) will be celebrated in our church services today. If you are not yet a member of our church, we ask you to honor our Biblical practice of close communion and refrain from coming forward until you have completed doctrinal discussions with one of our pastors. If you are a WELS member desiring to receive communion, please inform a pastor or an usher. (Please read “Attending the Lord’s Supper” for more information. Pamphlets are in the Capitol Ave. entryway.)

April 5, 2026

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Dawn

After saying farewell to Alleluia on Transfiguration Sunday 7 weeks ago, we sing our praises to the Lord with unbridled joy! This Easter morning, let us welcome back the Alleluias to our risen Savior, Jesus, with songs of joy and praise and loud Alleluias!

Following the bells, please stand. We will begin worship with the responsive “Easter Acclamations.”

EASTER ACCLAMATIONS

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD


O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
 bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The light no darkness can overcome.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega.

His are time and eternity; his are the glory and the dominion now and forever.

By his wounds we are healed, now and forever.

May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

This is the day when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality.

This is the day when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night.

How holy is this day when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.

How holy is this day when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast.

How blessed is this day when man is reconciled to God in Christ.

Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

Before we marvel at the empty tomb, we once again lay our sinfulness and sins at the cross and confess:

Sin entered the world through one man, and death came through sin. In this way death came to all people because all sinned. I, too, have broken God's commands in my thoughts, words, and deeds. I deserve God's judgment and condemnation.

We were buried with Christ Jesus through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Jesus' resurrection proves his victory over sin and death. Your sins are forgiven. Therefore, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Christ is risen! Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before you in righteousness and purity forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

PSALM 30

THE WORD

Our Lessons this morning are a harmony of the Easter accounts as found in the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices so that they might anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they went to the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were on their way to the tomb with the spices they had prepared and they asked each other,

“Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away from the tomb. But when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

HYMN: 443 (v1,3,4) *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men dressed in white robes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground. The angel said to the women,

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was cruci-

al of faith.

How my heart yearns within me!

Lord of Love, you have awakened us to a new life. You have assigned us the high calling of serving you in the people around us. Give us generous hearts. Help us to act in love toward our fellow believers, to make others feel welcome, and to be glad for their company. Move us to assume the best about everyone. Make us feel privileged to serve, needing no other recognition than the glory you have already won for us in heaven. Use us, Lord, our wealth and abilities, our love and our devotion to bless other people and bring them, along with us, to the unending joy of eternal life.

How my heart yearns within me!

Silence for personal prayers.

Hear us, risen Christ, as we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Stand

HYMN: 824 *This Is the Threefold Truth*

On this festive Easter morning, hymn 824 serves as our Confession of Faith in place of the Creed.

Be seated

OFFERING

The members of Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll!

That they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!

I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God;

I myself will see him with my own eyes—I and not another. How my heart yearns within me! (*Job 18:23-27*)

Precious Savior Jesus Christ, we thank and praise you that by your suffering on the cross you endured the very agony of hell for us, and that by your death you have reconciled us to God. But on this day we especially thank and praise you for your resurrection from the dead. It proves that you are God's Son and seals your sacrifice as the full payment for our sins. O Jesus, may we never cease to praise you with our hearts and lips for all that you have so graciously done for our salvation!

How my heart yearns within me!

Our Savior, we need you every moment of every day; be with us and shower upon us your promised grace and blessings.

As our exalted Prophet, instruct and encourage our hearts with the gospel of forgiveness and help us grow in our faith and knowledge of salvation.

As our exalted High Priest, hear us when we pray in your name and intercede at our Father's throne on our behalf.

As our exalted King, watch over us day by day, protecting us from all danger, guarding and keeping us from all evil.

Preserve us to your heavenly kingdom by granting us daily repentance and renew-

fied. He has risen! He is not here. Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."

Then they remembered his words. The angel said to the women,

"Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him,' just as he told you. Now I have told you."

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

HYMN: 461 *He Is Arisen! Glorious Word*

RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

Mary of Magdala came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said,

"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. Peter, however, went away, wondering to himself what had happened. They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying.

HYMN: 450 *The Day of Resurrection*

RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

As Mary wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her,

"Woman why are you crying?"

She said,

“They have taken my Lord away, and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. He said, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said,

“Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!,” which means Teacher. Jesus said, “Do not hold on to Me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

HYMN: 441 v1,2,3,4 *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. The other women ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them.

“Greetings,” he said.

They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them,

“Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them,

“You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.”

So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. While the other women were on their way, Mary Magdalene went to the disciples who were mourning and weeping with the news:

“I have seen the Lord!”

HYMN: 441 v5,6,7,8 *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

EASTER DEVOTION

John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she left and ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,” she told them, “and we don’t know where they put him!”

³So Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first. ⁵Bending over, he saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not go in.

⁶Then Simon Peter, who was following him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there. ⁷The cloth that had been on Jesus’ head was not lying with the linen cloths, but was folded up in a separate place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who arrived at the tomb first, also entered. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not yet understand the Scripture that he must rise from the dead.)

¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood outside facing the tomb, weeping. As she wept, she bent over, looking into the tomb. ¹²She saw two angels in white clothes sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They asked her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”

She told them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they have laid him.”

¹⁴After she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not know it was Jesus.

¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?”

Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, “Sir, if you carried him off, tell me where you laid him, and I will get him.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned and replied in Aramaic, “*Rabboni!*” (which means, “Teacher”).

¹⁷Jesus told her, “Do not continue to cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father—to my God and your God.’”

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord!” She also told them the things he said to her.