

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A faithful, serving community, joyfully sharing Christ's love.



Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

228 Ramapo Valley Rd, Oakland NJ 07436

www.messiahoaklandnj.org | 201-337-4900

@MessiahOaklandNJ

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

The congregation is invited to worship in any way that is comfortable and meaningful such as standing, sitting, kneeling, coloring, etc. You may join in worship by speaking the responses in bold type.

SILENT MEDITATION DURING PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for us. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for us. As far as east is from west, so far God removes our sin from us, renewing our life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.



1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re- turns to life once more;
 now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
 death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

GREETING

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

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: A Reading from **John 1:1-5, 10-14**

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.²He was in the beginning with God.³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him.¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

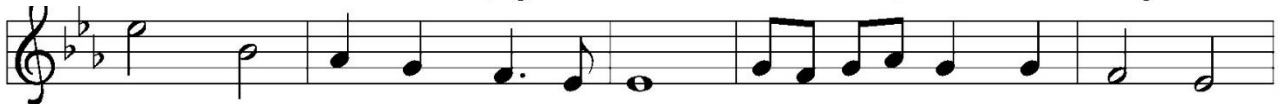
HYMN

Thine Is the Glory

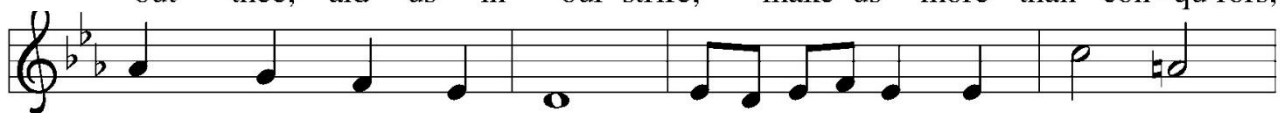
ELW #376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

SECOND READING: A Reading from John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there,⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to 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”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.



1 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, who has
 2 Wom - an, wait - ing in the gar - den, af - ter
 3 Wom - an, walk - ing in the gar - den, Je - sus
 4 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, weep for
 5 Wom - an, danc - ing from the gar - den, find the



pushed the stone a - side? Who has tak - en Je - sus'
 men have come and gone, af - ter an - gels give their
 takes you by sur - prise; when the gar - d'ner calls you,
 joy, for you have seen Je - sus, the Mes - si - ah,
 oth - ers and pro - claim Christ is ris - en as he



bod - y, Je - sus Christ the cru - ci - fied?
 wit - ness, si - lent - ly you watch the dawn.
 "Mar - y!" faith and joy meet in your eyes.
 ris - en; Christ, of whom the proph - ets dream.
 prom - ised; tell the world he knew your name!

THIRD READING: A Reading from **Matthew 28:1-10**

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

FOURTH READING: A Reading from **Luke 24: 1-12**

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.



Refrain/Estribillo
 ¡A - le - lu - ya! Cris - to re - su - ci - tó
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is a - ris - en.



de ma - dru - ga - da el do - min - go.
 Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord's day.



1 Fue - ron mu - jer - es al se - pul - cro.	La pie - dra, un
1 Run, faith - ful wom - en, to the grave - side.	Mar - vel, the
2 Rise, Mag - da - len - a, from your weep - ing;	Christ stands be -
3 Gath - er, dis - ci - ples, in the eve - ning;	sud - den - ly
4 Thom - as, where were you on that eve - ning?	"I'll not be -



án - gel re - mo - vió;	les di - jo: "Ha re - su - ci -
stone is rolled a - way!	Hear from the an - gel, "He is
fore your ver - y eyes.	Quick - ly re - turn to the dis -
Christ your Lord ap - pears.	"Look, it is I, your wound - ed
lieve un - less I see."	Christ comes a - gain, and ev - 'ry



ta - do."	<i>Refrain/Estribillo</i> Y al ir - se, les sa - lió el Se - ñor.
ris - en."	Christ goes be - fore you all the way.
ci - ples;	bear the good news: "He is a - live."
Sav - ior.	Peace be with you, and do not fear."
Lord's day:	"Touch me and see; have faith in me."

FIFTH READING: A Reading from Mark 16:9-18

⁹ Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰ She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹ But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. ¹² After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. ¹³ And they went back and told the rest, but they did not

believe them.¹⁴ Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table, and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.¹⁵ And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.¹⁶ The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned.¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;¹⁸ they will pick up snakes, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

The Day of Resurrection!

ELW #361



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSION

**God, in your grace,
Tend to our prayers**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, such as a handshake, hug, or peace sign and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

Offering can be left in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, sent to the church office, or given online by using the QR code to the right.



OFFERTORY

Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

COMMUNION RESPONSE

Holy Holy Holy

ELW pg.153

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION

We invite you to commune in whatever way is comfortable to you either from your seat using the prepackaged elements or by coming forward to the altar rail. To commune at the altar rail, please proceed down the diagonal aisles and pick up a cup from the silver plates. You will be given a wafer and then offered wine (first chalice) or grape juice (second chalice). For those communing online, please join us using whatever bread/crackers and wine/grape juice you have at home. All are welcome at God's table.

The body and blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen**

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God

ELW pg.154

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



1 Ho - ly wom - an, grace - ful giv - er, proph - et,
 2 Like the ves - sel, we are bro - ken; like the
 3 In these jars is hid - den trea - sure, cost - ly
 4 Ho - ly wom - an, cost - ly trea - sure, with the



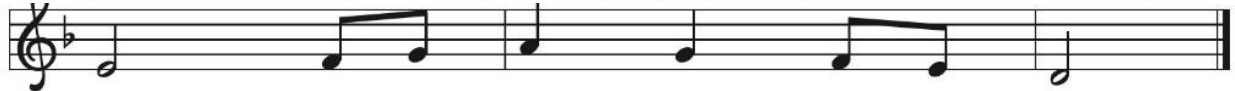
ser - vant, and be - liev - er, wom - an with the oint - ment
 oint - ment, we are to - ken of God's lov - ing un - to
 fra - grance, Christ - ly plea - sure, like the Christ, first from the
 jar of al - a - bas - ter, shows the hid - den gift we



jar, rose up near the time ap - point - ed, broke the
 death; like the wom - an, we are serv - ing; like the
 dead, bro - ken for cre - a - tion's whole - ness, poured out
 are; there - fore let us as Christ's ser - vants hold our



seal, Christ's head a - noint - ed for the com - ing fa - tal
 scold - ers, ill - de - serv - ing such a rich, for - giv - ing
 for its com - ing full - ness, Proph - et, Ser - vant, Hope, and
 sis - ter in re - mem - brance, wom - an with the oint - ment



hour, for the com - ing fa - tal hour.
 faith, such a rich, for - giv - ing faith.
 Head, Proph - et, Ser - vant, Hope, and Head.
 jar, wom - an with the oint - ment jar.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! ELW #385



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord. the life laid down. the life re - stored:



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Third Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2026 | 10:00am Worship Service

APRIL BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH: His Helping Hands

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

MONDAY: 7:00 pm Book Club
TUESDAY: 6:30 pm AA Meeting
THURSDAY: 12:00 pm Bible Study | 7:30 pm Band practice
SUNDAY: 9:00 am Choir Practice
10:00 am Worship

TODAY'S MINISTERS

PASTOR: Rev. Courtney Smith
Westerlund

ALTAR GUILD: Jerri Angermueller
& Nancy Krause

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Bob Luderer

VIDEO TECH: Don Brown/Nick DeRoda

LAY READER: Sabrina/Megan

COUNTERS: Cesar Rios &
Brigitte Albrecht

USHER: Cesar Rios

COORDINATING COUNCILOR: Tom White

GREETER: Valerie Nicolosi
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Brigitte
Albrecht & Susanne Herbst

COFFEE HOUR: Nicolosi

ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Helping Hands Collection: During the month of April we are collecting items to make summer hygiene kits for His Helping Hands. Join us April 19th to hear from Joe, the CEO and Founder! Then, join us on April 26th to assemble the hygiene kits after worship!

Book Club on Zoom at 7:00 pm:

Tomorrow, April 13th: "The Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters

Community Thrift Shop of Midland Park: A sign up sheet is in the narthex for volunteering at the Community Thrift Shop of Midland Park. Shifts are on April 28th and April 30th. Reach out to Marilyn for more information!

Special Program for Mother's Day: To honor a special woman in your life, we will have a special bulletin insert on Mother's Day with a list of your loved ones. If you would like, you may donate \$1.00 per name (or whatever amount you wish) which will go to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Please mark your check or envelope with notation of "Mother's Day" to assist our counters. Forms to fill out will be in bulletins and are due back by May 3rd.



Please keep in prayer the following people in our Messiah family: Bob, Helen, Jonny & Natalie, Kim, Len, Mike, Sue and Alex. **And the following friends and family:** All affected by seasonal illnesses; All those in the armed forces, especially those connected to our congregation, Evan and Joseph; Jeff ; David; Kurt; Peter & Joyce; Mark and Keith, Susanne's friends; Gayle, friend of Joan & Eleanore; June, Lee's mother; Miro, Vesna's father; Erika, Kristen's sister; Thomas, friend of Tony & Edie; John, Joan, Herb, Todd, Gus, Peggy, Jim, Kathy, and Carol, Ron and Marilyn's friends; Kim, friend of Sue; Marilyn & Vincent, Lisa's parents; Ron & June, Karen's parents; Melinda & Paul, Eleanore's sister & nephew; Jennifer, friend of Sue & Eleanore; Nancy, friend of Kim; Peggy & Christine, Alex's aunts; Karol & Barbara, Eleanore's friends; Alexa and Hank friends of Nancy; Peter, Terri's father; Julie, family friend of Nancy; Paula, friend of Nancy; Janice, food pantry volunteer; Joan, friend of Ron and Marilyn; Keith, Karen & Clyde, Valerie's brother and friends

Please let us know if you have changes we should make to our prayer list