

resurrection
REALity

**THE LIVING LORD
PRODUCES ACTIVE
FAITH**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

RESURRECTION REALITY

St. Paul writes, “Christ has indeed been raised from the dead” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus’ resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time’s infinite line, Jesus’ resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus’ resurrection proves that “all will be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now.

THE LIVING LORD PRODUCES ACTIVE FAITH

Generally, our actions are shaped by our beliefs. People who eat low-carb diets do so, probably not because they hate pasta, but because they believe it healthiest. If a man buys stock in a company, it probably is because he believes in their business plan. Our beliefs shape our behavior. This is true of Christians’ belief in the resurrection. We believe that Christ’s resurrection means our resurrection to a glorious eternal life is guaranteed. That inevitably shapes how we will act now.

However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus is not some wise, dead sage whose advice is contained in dusty books. Jesus lives! Therefore, through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.

God bless your worship.

OFFERING

You may place your offering in the one of the plates located in the church entryway. Or give electronically on the web or use the mobile app. Go to redeemertucson.com/offerings.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	8:00am: Pastor David Clark	10:45am: Pastor John Hartmann
Preacher		Pastor Adam Mueller
Organist/Pianist		Rachel Casmer
Musicians		Rylie Follendorf
Cantor		Jason Williams
Usher Teams	8:00am: Scott & Conner Etzenhouser, Charlie Weinstein	10:45am: Bruce Thomas, Bob Boschee, Clyde Brumfield
Flowers	The flowers on the altar this morning were given to the Glory of God by Charlie and Karen Weinstein, in celebration of their 23 rd wedding anniversary.	

† ORDER OF SERVICE †

Greeting and welcome

OPENING HYMN

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening | **631:1,3-4**

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES

L O Lord, o - pen my lips.

C And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

L Hasten to save me, O God.

C O Lord, come quickly to help me.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Venite

Congregation will sing the Venite in unison.

Refrain:

Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;
come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,
come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

Verses:

1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,
cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.
You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,
to Refrain
you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

Be seated

The Word

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children's devotion is a shortened version of the sermon intended to communicate God's truths in a simplified way. Children 12 and under are encouraged to come forward and participate in the devotion.

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM (8:00 a.m.)

"Low in the Grave He Lay"

Redeemer School students, preschool-8th grade

Low in the grave he lay,
Jesus, my Savior!
Waiting the coming day,
Jesus, my Lord!

Refrain:

Up from the grave he arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er his foes,
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And he lives forever with his saints to reign.
He arose! (He arose!)
He arose! (He arose!)
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watched his bed,
Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly they sealed the dead,
Jesus, my Lord!

Refrain

Death could not keep his prey,
Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away,
Jesus, my Lord!

Refrain



FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-37

The living Lord produces the fruit of unity and generosity.

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.

³⁴ There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

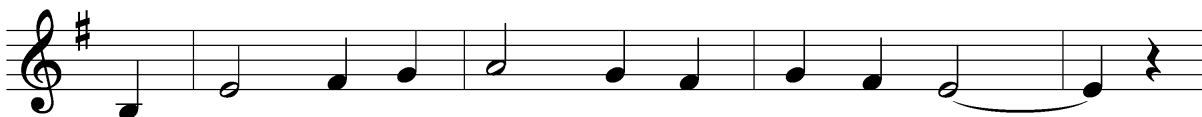
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

O God, in This Desert I Thirst for You | Psalm 63(D)

Cantor: verses 1-2 **Congregation:** verse 3



1 O God, in this des - ert I thirst for you,
2 My eyes turn to you in your ho - ly place,
3 Your bless - ings are rich as a lav - ish feast,



faint, and parched as the wind - blown sand.
and your glo - ry and strength I see!
and your prais - es my mouth shall sing,



In your mer - cy and kind - ness, re - vive my soul;
I will bless you as long as my life shall last,
while at night on my bed I re - mem - ber you



you are wa - ter in a dry and wea - ry land.
for your stead - fast love is more than life to me.
and re - joice be - neath the shad - ow of your wings.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:18-24

A living faith shows itself in both words and deeds.

¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹ This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15:5

Alleluia. I am the vine; you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Connected to Christ the Vine, we bear much fruit.

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ the Vine | **709**

Cantor: verse 1 **Congregation:** verses 2-3

SERMON

“Remain in God”

John 15:1-8

SERMON HYMN

Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing | **595**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND MUSICAL OFFERTORY

Stand

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: **L** In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you; be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer. **C** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

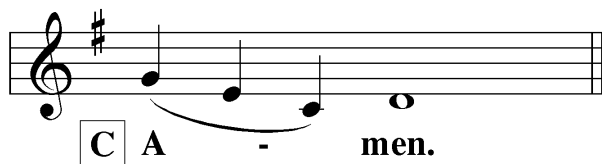
O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

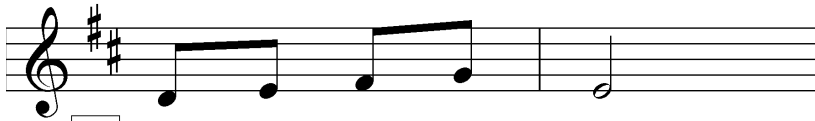
Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

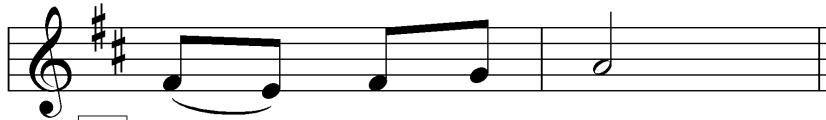
♪ O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.



BENEDICAMUS



L Let us praise the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



L The Lord bless and keep you.



C A - men.



L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



C A - men.



L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

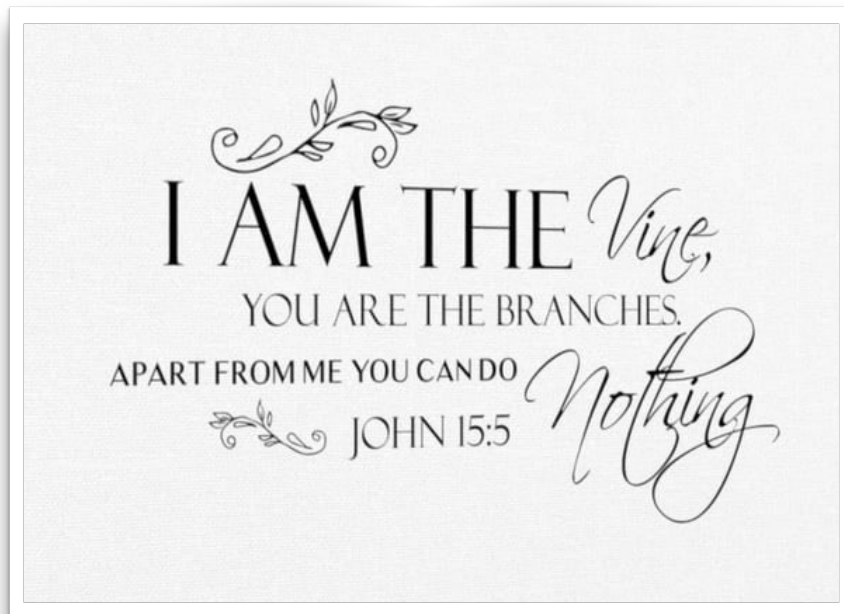
Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

If Then You Have Been Raised with Christ | 687

The hymn will be sung to the tune of Forest Green.

The April WELS Connection will be viewed immediately following the closing hymn.



- ❖ *Please reserve the pews in the back of the church for families with small children.*
- ❖ *Restrooms are located in the entrance area of the church. A changing table is available in the women's restroom.*
- ❖ *A quiet room with a window is available in the entrance area of the church and offers live audio of the service. Parents may use this room to calm a restless child.*
- ❖ *If you would like to know more about Redeemer, visit redeemertucson.com or contact one of our pastors.*



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