



The Sunday of the Resurrection

Easter Day

April 20, 2025 | 9:15 AM *Come As You Are Service*

Saint Luke's Parish
Darien, Connecticut

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship on this Easter Day. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this leaflet. Greeters are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About Today's Service

Easter is the most significant and joyful holiday of the Christian year—a celebration of the event that defines our Church: the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Like spring itself, the Paschal feast heralds the promise of new life. And it is the ground upon which all our hope rests: because Jesus Christ is risen from the grave, so too shall we be. There is absolutely nothing in all of creation, not even death, that can stand between us and the love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8).

After 40 days of Lenten preparation and reflection, more joyful elements return to the liturgy today. The Gloria, a song of praise dating from the fourth century, returns. So too does the word Alleluia ("Praise the Lord"), which has not been spoken throughout the season of Lent. We now proclaim it enthusiastically throughout today's liturgy, and it will remain in acclamations, hymns, and dismissals throughout the 50 days of Eastertide.

Easter Day expresses the very center of our faith: Jesus appears, risen from the dead, and the joy and wonder of his followers is matched by the joy and wonder of our worship this day.

Easter Day: The Sunday of the Resurrection

Come As You Are Holy Eucharist

Prelude “Agnus Dei”

Welcome

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Opening Acclamation & Collect of the Day

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Welcome to visitors and members alike. Our church's motto is: “The Episcopal Church Welcomes You” and we hope you find this a most hospitable place to worship, to grow, and to be.

The order for our service is from the **Book of Common Prayer**. The order is called the liturgy, which means “work of the people.” It is responsive and participatory because your contribution to worship is what truly makes us a worshipping community.

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today” © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 11394986

The Word of God

The First Lesson | 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

“Worthy is the Lamb”

Thank you for the cross, Lord
Thank you for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came
And gave amazing grace

Thank you for this love, Lord
Thank you for the nail-pierced hands
Washed me in Your cleansing flow
Now all I know
Is Your forgiveness and embrace

Worthy is the Lamb
Seated on the throne
We crown You now with many crowns
You reign victorious
High and lifted up
Jesus, Son of God
The darling of heaven crucified
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb

The Gospel | John 20:1-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Early 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. So 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." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

The Lectionary: The choice of readings comes from the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of readings covering the whole Bible that we share with other major Christian denominations.

“Worthy is the Lamb”
By Darlene Zschech
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There is always a **Gospel** reading and it is proclaimed by the deacon or priest from among the people. The gospel is the story of Jesus Christ among us, but it is also our story, the good news of our faith.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and 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. They 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." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus 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." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus 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.'" Mary 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 Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim

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: 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

The Prayers of the People

In joy and hope let us pray to the Lord.

Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the world, evermore risen and never going down: Fill us with the joy of your glorious and life-giving resurrection.

Jesus, Lord of Life,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you are the True Vine and we are the branches: Help us to be mindful of the connections we have with all the peoples of the earth, that as we abide in your love, your peace and justice may be known on earth as they are enjoyed in heaven.

Jesus, Lord of life,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you are the Bread of Life come down from heaven: Give bread to those who hunger, and a hunger for justice to those who have bread, and make us all hunger and thirst after righteousness.

Jesus, Lord of life,
Hear our prayer.

The Prayers of the People are always responsive. They are "of the people" because everyone gives voice to the supplications. It is part of our liturgy where it is most evident that we would be noticeably less without the contribution of each person present.

The **Peace** has been exchanged at the Eucharist since the time of the Apostles. It is both the proper response to the Word, and our expression of reconciliation with one another before we come to the altar to be reconciled with God.

The **Offertory** is where we bring our gifts of bread, wine, money, and our very selves to present to the Lord as our initial act of Thanksgiving, which is what Eucharist means.

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep: Recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick, and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.

Jesus, Lord of life,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you are the Resurrection and the Life: We commend to your never-failing care all those who have died, and pray that they may be raised on the last day.

Jesus, Lord of life,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth, the Life: Be with us and all who seek to follow you in the Way of Love. Give us the gift of your Spirit that we may embody your grace, mercy and peace in all we say and do as witnesses of your resurrection.

Jesus, Lord of life,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes by saying

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Clergy and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Today's Easter Offering supports Saint Luke's mission and outreach partners, here and around the world. Your gift helps feed, clothe, shelter, educate, refresh, and restore the minds, bodies, and spirits of those in need within our parish, in our community, and beyond.

To make an electronic gift today, please either visit www.saintlukesdarien.org/give or scan the QR code below with your phone. Thank you for your generosity.



Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

-Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Song Because he Lives (Amen)

I believe in the Son
I believe in the risen One
I believe, I overcome
By the power of His blood

[CHORUS]:
Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the One that never ends
Because He lives

I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away

[CHORUS]
Because He lives
I can face tomorrow
Because He lives
Every fear is gone
I know
He holds
My life
My future in His hands

[CHORUS]

The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

For Episcopalians, the **Eucharist**, rather than the sermon, is the principle act of Christian worship. The Eucharistic prayer always entails a full proclamation of the heart of the Gospel.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Sung by all.

Grayson Warren Brown



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Luke, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus gave to his followers when they asked him to teach them to pray. It is a form on which we can model our prayers.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Invitation to Communion

The Table is ready. So, come, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you to meet him here.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion, regardless of age or denomination. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please request one. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

The Eucharist, or **Communion**, is reminiscent of the Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his death. Now he shares it with us and invites all of us to share symbolically in his life, death, and resurrection, through it. It should remind us that we are Christ's body in our time.

Communion Song "In Christ Alone"

Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Postcommunion Prayer concludes the Eucharist. In it we always say "thank you" to God for the gift of Christ, the Spirit, and the community of the Church.

"Mighty to Save"
By Ben Fielding & Reuben
Morgan
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The Dismissal is an important part of the service. Having heard the gospel and been served at the table of Christ, we are sent out into the world to proclaim the good news and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.

The Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

"Mighty To Save"

Everyone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Everyone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

Chorus:

Saviour, He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever, Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Everything I believe in
Now I surrender

Bridge:

Shine Your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King
(x2)

The Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Participants in Today's Service

Celebrant	The Rev. Susan C. Wyper
Preacher	The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim
Musicians	Anna Jacobson, Vocals, Violin Tod Baharian, Guitar, Vocals Bob Leinbach, Keyboards, Vocals Adrienne Reedy, Vocals Tom Barraco, Percussion

**Thank you to those serving today as acolytes, readers, ushers,
and members of the Altar and Flower Guilds.**

Saint Luke's Parish

A parish in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut,
a member of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop of Connecticut The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

Rector

The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

2025-2026 Vestry

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Saint Luke's Parish

Grow

Love

Serve

Our Vision

A world transformed by the love of Jesus Christ
for all people.

Our Mission

Living together as disciples of Christ, we seek to:

Grow personally in faith,
acknowledging our imperfection and need of grace;

Build an accepting & transforming community,
extending God's unconditional welcome to all;

Work alongside our neighbors,
forming partnerships to serve the world.

Let it begin with me.

Our Invitation

Grow in love of God.

Love your neighbor as yourself.

Serve the world in Christ's name.