



The Sunday of the Resurrection

# Easter Day

April 5, 2026 | 9:15 AM *Come As You Are*

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*

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.**

### The Word of God

The First Lesson | Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how 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. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.

**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 worshiping community.

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

**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.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not 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. He 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. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### "Glorious Day"

I was buried beneath my shame  
Who could carry that kind of weight?  
It was my tomb  
'Til I met You

I was breathing, but not alive  
All my failures I tried to hide  
It was my tomb  
'Til I met You

CHORUS:  
You called my name  
Then I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day  
You called my name  
And I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day  
Now Your mercy has saved my soul  
Now Your freedom is all that I know  
The old made new  
Jesus, when I met You, whoa, what a day

[CHORUS]

I needed rescue  
My sin was heavy  
But chains break at the weight of Your glory  
I needed shelter  
I was an orphan  
But You call me a citizen of Heaven  
When I was broken  
You were my healing  
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing  
I have a future  
My eyes are open

[CHORUS]

### The Gospel | Matthew 28:1-10

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

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

Glorious Day  
CCLI #: 7081388  
Songwriters: Jason Ingram,  
Jonathan Smith, Kristian  
Stanfill, Sean Curran  
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sixsteps Songs; Worship  
Together  
Music; worshiptogether.co  
m songs; Fellow Ships  
Music; Hickory Bill Doc;  
So Essential Tunes

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.

Then 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." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Susan C. Wyper

"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]

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:

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

[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 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 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 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.**

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 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 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](http://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 "Worthy is the Lamb"

## 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:

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.

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

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
 Hea-ven and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 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.*

### 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 **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 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.

**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.

## 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**

### “Praise”

I'll praise in the valley  
Praise on the mountain  
I'll praise when I'm sure  
Praise when I'm doubting  
I'll praise when outnumbered  
Praise when surrounded  
'Cause praise is the water  
My enemies drown in

As long as I'm breathing  
I've got a reason to  
Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

I'll praise when I feel it  
And I'll praise when I don't  
I'll praise 'cause I know  
You're still in control  
'Cause my praise is a weapon  
It's more than a sound  
My praise is the shout  
That brings Jericho down

Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign  
Praise 'cause You reign  
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the  
grave  
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful  
Praise 'cause You're true  
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater  
than You

Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul  
Praise the Lord oh my soul  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
I won't be quiet  
My God is alive  
How could I keep it inside  
Praise the Lord oh my soul

### “Praise”

CCLI #: 7213077  
Songwriters: Brandon Lake,  
Chandler Moore, Chris  
Brown, Cody Carnes, Pat  
Barrett, Steven Furtick  
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Genesis; Capitol CMG  
Paragon; Housefires Sounds;  
Writer's Roof Publishing;  
Brandon Lake Music; Music  
by Elevation Worship  
Publishing; For Humans  
Publishing; Maverick City  
Publishing

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 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. Hannah G. Pommersheim  
**Preacher** The Rev. Susan C. Wyper

**Musicians** Anna Jacobson: Vocals, violin  
Tod Baharian: Guitar, vocals  
Bob Leinbach: Piano, vocals  
Tod Hedrick: Bass  
Tom Barraco: Drums  
Jim Clark: Saxophone, flute

**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

## 2026-2027 Vestry

Bill Bowman, *Senior Warden*

Lida Ward, *Junior Warden*

Eric Bickford, *Treasurer*

Fred Elliott, *Clerk*

### Class of 2027

Al Briganti  
Whitney Creutz  
Barbara May

### Class of 2028

Eric Bickford  
Victoria Bolton  
Lida Ward

### Class of 2029

Barclay Bowen  
Bion Piepmeier  
Tammy Sload

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*Youth Assistant*

Jodie Azzopardi  
*Office Manager*

Erika Caputo  
*Director of Children's Ministries*

Lyle Foster  
*Facilities Manager*

Huw Jones  
*Associate Organist*

Misty Krasawski  
*Seminarian Intern*

Amy O'Kane  
*Director of Communications*

The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim  
*Associate Rector*

H. David Pulliam  
*Director of Music and Organist*

The Rev. Ansley E. Walker  
*Associate Rector*

Kelly Wheeler  
*Director of Engagement*

Ron Wilson  
*Director of Finance*

The Rev. Susan C. Wyper  
*Pastoral Associate*

## Priest Associates

The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann

The Rev. G. Hartwell Hylton

## Campus Partners

Elizabeth Hearle  
*Parish School Director*

Nancy Coughlin  
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## Saint Luke's Parish

Grow

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Love

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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.