

Crow River Lutheran Church Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



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Secretary, Sue Wiener

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Procession/Bell

Song: "Day by Day" ELW #790 (vs. 1,3)

1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.

Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.

Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.

Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.

Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005
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***Thanksgiving for Baptism:**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

L: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: “Now the Green Blade Rises”**

ELW #379

1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958 CCLI #2275507

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved

***Apostolic Greeting:**

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.**

***Hymn: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”** ELW #733 (vs. 1,2)

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ***Refrain:***

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960 Music: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957

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Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, **with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading:

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ELW #733 (vs. 3)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain:**

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960 Music: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957
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Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 133

L: How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

C: It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

L: It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Hymn: "Jesus Loves Me" ELW #595

1 Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1815. Alt. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868
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Children's Sermon

Hymn: "I've Got the Joy" (vs. 1,3)

1 I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
down in my heart, down in my heart;
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
down in my heart to stay.

3 I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

Arr. By H. D. L. CCLI #2275507 Public Domain

***Gospel Acclamation:** "Alleluia" Setting 4, pg. 151 ELW

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

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***Holy Gospel:** John 20:19-31

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymns:

“Open Our Eyes Lord”

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Text and Music: Robert Cull, b. 1949
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“In the Garden”

1 I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.

Refrain:

And He walks with me, and He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own.
And the joy we share, as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

2 He speaks and the sound of His voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing.

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“Blessed Assurance”

ELW #638 (vs. 1,3)

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **Refrain:**

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **Refrain:**

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***Apostles' Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of the People:**

L: God of grace, **C:** hear our prayer.

***Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** **And also with you.**

Offering

Hymn: "Here I Am, Lord" ELW #574 (vs. 1)

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 One Licence #A-736797
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***Offertory Prayer:**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

***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.

Hymn: "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" ELW #860 (vs. 1,3,1)

1 I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

1 I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Text: African American spiritual Augsburg Fortress #SB109327

***Benediction:**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!" ELW #377 (vs.1,2,5)

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain:

Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

Refrain:

5 City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb, rRiver of life,
saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM!

Refrain:

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
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***Dismissal:**

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!