

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L) Lord in your Mercy. **C) Hear our Prayer.**

OFFERING/OFFERING SONG

“Lamb of God” (verse 1)

ELW #336

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon
this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh,
wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

HOLY COMMUNION

- ✝ Words of Institution
- ✝ The Lord’s Prayer
- ✝ Distribution of the Sacrament
- ✝ Communion Blessing
- ✝ Benediction

Special Music “Easter Jubilation, Willow Creek

CLOSING HYMN

“Thine Is the Glory”

ELW #376

- 1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son; endless is the vict’ry thou o’er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son; endless is the vict’ry thou o’er death hast won!

- 2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting!

Refrain

- 3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu’rors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. *Refrain*

THE SENDING

L) Go in peace. Serve the Lord and others! **C) Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



“Benton and Willow Creek Lutheran Churches”

April 20th, 2025

Vicar Kendra Kappler and Pastor Renae Boehmer

Accompanists: Paul Mesner, Willow Creek and Jill Rye, Benton

OPENING LITANY *(outdoors at Benton)*

Leader: We come this morning to a place of remembrance, a place where names are etched in stone, a place where grief still lingers.

People: *Yet even here, we wait in hope.*

Leader: On Friday, the tomb was sealed. The world grew dark. The breath of life was stilled.

People: *Yet even here, we wait in hope.*

Leader: The women came in sorrow, carrying spices for the dead. They came expecting silence, expecting loss, expecting death.

People: *Yet even here, we wait in hope.*

Leader: But the stone was rolled away! The tomb was empty! The grave could not hold Him!

People: *Christ is not here—He is risen!*

Leader: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O grave, is your sting?

People: *Christ is not here—He is risen!*

Leader: Tears of grief turn to shouts of joy! The night is over, and the morning has come! Christ is risen!

People: *He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

SHARING THE PEACE *(Children’s Resurrection Egg Hunt)*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

(Benton Congregation moves into the sanctuary)

Leader: Christ is Risen!

Cong: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN (redress the altar) “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

ELW #365

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

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heav’nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3 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!

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav’nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: As we celebrate the joy of Easter, we come before God, aware of our sin and our need for new life. Let us confess our sins and receive God’s mercy. (Silence for reflection)

Leader: Risen Lord,
Cong: We confess that we have fallen into sin, doubting your promises, failing to love one another, and turning from the hope of the resurrection. We are trapped by fear and bound by sin. Forgive us and free us from all that holds us back, so that we may live in the joy of your resurrection and walk in the way of new life. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ is alive, and through his death and resurrection, all your sins are forgiven. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, you are set free to live in the power of the Holy Spirit. Walk in the joy of the Lord! **Cong: Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of life and joy, you shattered the powers of sin and death, raising Jesus from the grave and bringing salvation to the world. Fill us with the hope of the resurrection, that we may live as your Easter people, proclaiming the good news of Christ’s victory. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well. ²⁴Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,
L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:17-25

¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
L) Word of God, Word of Life **All) Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Jesus Name Above All Names” (sung)

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us, Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:1-12

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] 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.
L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Remember the Resurrection”

Vicar Kendra Kappler

HYMN OF THE DAY “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (v-1-5)

ELW #619

1 I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my ever-living head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.

3 He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye;
he lives to comfort me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

4 He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.

5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.