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**Easter Sunday April 9, 2023 Video**

*Good morning. This is Richfield Lutheran Church’s video worship service for Easter Sunday, April 9. I’m Pastor Brian, with me today are Paul on the organ and Mary as our vocalist. The printed bulletin for this service can be found on our website, Richfield-Lutheran.org.*

*Our gospel is Matthew 28:1-10. This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.*

1. **GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Gathering Hymn** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* **# 365, vv 1-2**

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!

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

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.**

Let us pray.

**God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

1. **WORD**

**Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10** *(*Sorrow gives way to “fear and great joy” when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!*)*

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 10th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.  2And 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. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.  4For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.  5But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.  6He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.  7Then 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.”  8So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.  9Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.  10Then 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, O Christ.**

**Sermon** “*Fear and Great Joy”*  Pr Brian

**Hymn of the Day** *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* **# 367, vv 1-2**

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds

in praise of love that still abounds:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings,

therefore our heart with rapture sings:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Now still he comes to give us life

and by his presence stills all strife.

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Prayers of the People**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(A brief silence.)*

You call your church to witness to your salvation. We give thanks for all theologians, preachers, and teachers who proclaim your gospel. Equip all the baptized to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You bring abundant life throughout creation. The green blade rises, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You show your steadfast love without regard to borders, barriers, or human-made divisions. Infuse your justice in every nation of the world, that all experience the peace that only you can give. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized *…* and for all healthcare workers who care for them. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have put gladness in our hearts. Inspire musicians and dancers to rejoice with songs of victory. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who foster our assembly’s song. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*(A brief silence.)*

As you have raised Jesus from the dead, you show us your resurrection promise. With your holy ones who have sung your praise, free us from fear and empower us to go and tell the good news. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**III. THANKSGIVING**

**Offering**

*You can support this and other of God’s ministries through Richfield Lutheran Church today via our website: Richfield-Lutheran.org/give. Thank you for your faithful generosity.*

**Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**IV. SENDING**

*On Easter Sunday, April 9, in addition to this video recording and its phone-in option, we have in-person worship at 9:30, we celebrate Holy Communion, and the choir is singing! All are welcome.*

*Next Sunday, April 16, is the Second Sunday of Easter, our gospel reading is John 20:19-31.* *(*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a blessing, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.)

*Until then, go forth with God’s blessing.*

**Blessing**

The God of all, who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn** *Christ is Risen! Alleluia!* **# 382, vv 1-2**

1 Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia!

Christ is risen from the dead!

Gratefully our hearts adore him

as his light once more appears;

bowing down in joy before him,

rising up from griefs and tears.

*Refrain*

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia!

Christ is risen from the dead!

2 Christ is risen! All the sadness

of our Lenten fast is o'er;

through the open gates of gladness

he returns to life once more;

death and hell before him bending

see him rise, the victor now,

angels on his steps attending,

glory round his wounded brow. *Refrain*

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**This Week’s Daily Bible Readings:**

Monday, April 10. Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Tuesday, April 11. Colossians 3:12-17

Wednesday, April 12. Matthew 28:1-10

Thursday, April 13. Acts 2:14, 22-32

Friday, April 14. Psalm 16

Saturday, April 15. 1 Peter 1:3-9

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