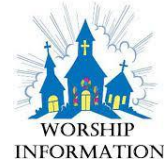




We are happy that you have joined us for worship and hope you find this to be a meaningful time.



Head Usher	Robert Olson
AV Operator	Lisa Borneman
Reader	Shirley Evenstad
Fellowship Hospitality Hosts	Cherill & Kathy Lindquist
Weekend Custodian	Aaron Traynor

CONTACT US

Pastor	Charlie Ruud	cruud@richfield-lutheran.org
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Custodian	Randy O'Brien	robrien@richfield-lutheran.org
Office Manager	Bonnie Nichols	bnichols@richfield-lutheran.org
Organist	Paul Cornick	612-208-0919

Prayer Chain Requests – Call the RLC office (612) 861-2265.

Online worship is offered through the links listed below:

ONLINE RESOURCES & ZOOM LINKS

<https://richfield-lutheran.org/news-events/online-sermons.html>

Follow us on Social Media to stay up to date on all our news, upcoming events, and fun photos and videos!

Info: Facebook: Richfield Lutheran Church Instagram: richfield-lutheran

RICHFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH
8 W. 60TH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN. 55419
April 20, 2025



***A New Century – A New Mission:
“Together we will BE the Church by living out God’s gifts
in the community and the world.”***

Richfield Lutheran Church

1ST SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 20, 2025, 9:30A.M.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR

* = Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** type indicates congregational responses.

- **Welcome! No matter your background, circumstance, or footing in faith your presence is valued and celebrated as a part of the beloved community of God today.**
- *Your generosity is appreciated and encouraged as it makes a difference in the lives of many. Gifts and offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance before, during, or after the service. To give electronically, please visit richfield-lutheran.org/give*
- *We receive Holy Communion as a part of worship today, and you are welcome at Christ's table! Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Children may partake in the meal and/or come forward to receive a blessing as parents choose. Communion is received by intinction today (take the wafer and dip it into the wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, let your usher know and the servers will come to you. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request to the servers.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen! On this Easter Sunday we hear the story of the women going to the tomb expecting to find only the remnant of death. We stand in awe with them as they find the stone rolled away and hear the news that Jesus has gone ahead of them in new life. Although it may seem an "idle tale", God proclaims it is for you, and this good news has transformative power for newness of heart and peace beyond understanding. Joyous Easter!

I. GATHERING

PRELUDE	<i>Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring</i>	Bach
	<i>Praise to the Lord</i>	Walther

(The prelude gathers us in the Lord's presence. You are invited to center through it.)

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

BULLETIN BOARD



Thank you Members of the Crosstown Community Band who have volunteered their time and talent to the festival today.



If you have ordered an **Easter Lily** and would like to pick it up after worship and need assistance, please ask an usher.

ACT OF KINDNESS -consider delivering an Easter Lily to one of our shut-ins. They will appreciate your kindness greatly.



Bible Study Online with Pastor Charlie

Wednesdays @ 1:00 p.m. using Zoom Video Meeting.

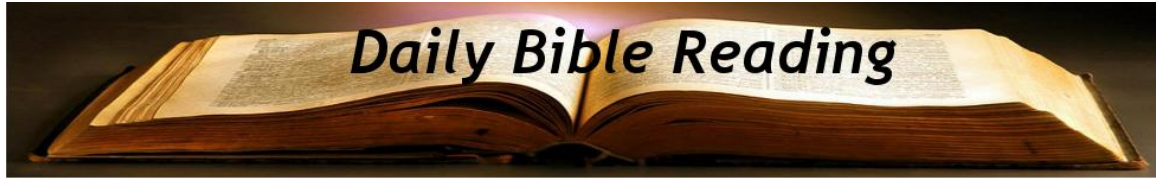
Zoom link to Bible Study can be accessed on the RLC website under "Get Involved".

Sunday, April 27th Worship services will be held jointly with Mundo de Paz at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. Lunch provided by members of Mundo de Paz will be served immediately after in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!



Thursday Musical Artist Series – Piano Extravaganza at RLC on Thursday, April 24th at 7:00 PM.

The RLC Office will be closed on Monday, April 21st.



THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Monday, April 21. Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Thursday, April 24. Psalm 150

Tuesday, April 22. Revelation 12:1-12

Friday, April 25. Mark 1:1-11

Wednesday, April 23. 2 Samuel 6:1-15

Saturday, April 26. 1 Samuel 17:32-51

Next week, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, we host a special worship at 11am and lunch to follow continuing the resurrection celebration with our friends of Mundo de Paz congregation. Show up for this combined worship incorporating both English and Spanish, noting the richness of God's presence and love for all. ¡Cristo ha resucitado! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

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***GATHERING HYMN**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

ELW #365

***GREETING**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*** KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

*** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

p 149

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for Christ is alive and among us in faith.

Increase in us the risen life we share with Christ. Cast out our fears. Renew our hearts.

Embolden us to follow, care for those in need, and share in the abundant life given

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

II. Word

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

(The Apostle Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.)

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² 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. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 *(read responsively)*

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

² **Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

IV. SENDING

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope and live in love, in the name of the Triune God.

Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW #367

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

TRUMPET TUNE IN C MAJOR

DAVID M. JOHNSON

(The postlude sends us out to be Christ's peace in the world. You are invited to savor it.)

(Our service continues with sharing fellowship in Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall, across the hall; and then in the world with other neighbors.)



III. THANKSGIVING and MEAL

CHOIR ANTHEM

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

ELW #377

* OFFERTORY

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

ELW #678, vs. 1

**God whose giving knows no ending, from you rich and endless store:
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door,
Gifted by you, we turn to you, off'ring up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days**

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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.

COMMUNION SONG

Eat This Bread

ELW #472

**Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.**
(sung repeatedly)

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

POST- COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION SONG

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW #543 v.3

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

(The Apostle Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.)

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. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*** GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12**

(Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.)

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The 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. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Jesus on the Loose

Pastor Charlie Ruud

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now the Green Blade Rises
(Please stand for the final verse.)

ELW #379

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – Iona Creed

We trust in God who befriended a wandering people, delivering them from slavery into freedom; yet who in Rahab, Tamar, Ruth, Bathsheba, Cyrus, Darius and many others called outsiders to be agents of God's purpose.

We trust in Jesus who was revered by Persian sages, sought and found asylum in Egypt, preached that God loved Syrians, attracted Greeks to his cause, found his first evangelist in a Samaritan, saw incomparable faith in a Caananite woman, had his cross shouldered by a Libyan, and ascended above his native land that he might be present in all places.

We trust in the Holy Spirit, who at Pentecost proved that heaven has no favored mother-tongue; who, in the baptism of the Ethiopian denied racism a foothold in faith; and who in the ancient and modern worlds founded churches in different cultures.

We believe that God is supremely known in Jesus, yet we affirm that God is present among people who do not own Christ as their Lord.

We affirm that the kingdom of God is bigger than the Church, and the love of God is beyond our understanding. We therefore celebrate that God's ways are not our ways, that God knows whom God chooses, and reserves the right to surpass all human expectation. Blessed be God forever! Amen.

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

After each petition:

...Merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

*** PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.)