



**Preparation for Worship:**

This is the day of the Lord's victory; let us be happy, let us celebrate!" (Psalm 118:24, GNT).

*\*Please stand as you are able* **Bold** Items read in unison

**GATHERING** We come together to worship God

Welcome and Announcements

\* Processional Hymn – *Low in the Grave He Lay* ..... Red #111

Invocation/Easter Proclamation:

**Leader:** Praise the Lord! Christ is risen! **Congregation:** He is risen indeed!

**L:** For the stone has been rolled away. **C:** Alleluia! Alleluia!

**L:** Christ has been raised from death to new life. **C:** Christ is risen indeed!

**L:** In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **C:** Alleluia! Our Lord lives!

**L:** Alleluia! Christ is risen. **All:** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

Communion Exhortation

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: Hear our prayer.)

**WORD** – We seek guidance from God's Word

Isaiah 25:6-9

Old Testament

Psalms 16

Responsive Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Epistle

\* Apostles' Creed: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

\* Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

[Hope] Special Music . . . . Hope Sunday School

Children's Sermon

Hymn – *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands* ..... Red #114

\* Mark 16:1-8

\* Gospel

Sermon – *Courageous Witnesses of the Resurrection* . . . Pastor Barry Nelson

**MEAL** The Table of Our Lord

Holy Communion ..... **p. 35-38**

Nunc Dimittis: **Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.**

**SENDING** We go out to live in & share God's Word

\* Closing Hymn – *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* ..... Red #104

\* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.**

\* Dismissal: Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **C:** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**Resurrection Rumbings**

In Easter Earthquake, James A. Harnish explores the "earthshaking promise" of Jesus' resurrection. Easter Sunday "shatters the power of fear," he writes. "Because Christ is risen, we no longer allow fear to dominate, control or manipulate us. We don't remain imprisoned in the tombs of our past failures or buried under the weight of present anxiety. In the risen Christ, old things pass away and everything becomes new."

Easter, Harnish adds, is proof that God hasn't forsaken us and is present among us. "The Resurrection contradicts the assumption that Christ resides on an ethereal cloud in a distant heaven. Rather, we find him on the dusty road that leads to the real stuff of our ordinary world."

Jesus' followers can find him everywhere, Harnish concludes. "The risen Christ will meet us along the confused, chaotic, fearful paths of our lives and speak the same words the women hear at the tomb, 'Do not be afraid.'"

**This Week in the Parish - March 31 – April 7**

TUESDAY	7:30 pm	VBS planning meeting at First American
WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm	Confirmation at Hope
	7:30 pm	Hope Council meeting
SUNDAY	9:00 am	First American Worship with Holy Communion
	9:30 am	Hope Sunday School
	10:15 am	First American Sunday School
	10:45 am	Hope Worship with Holy Communion

**Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – March 24, 2024**

**First American:** General—\$1710. Benevolence—\$110. Lenten Offering for All Nations Family Center (Pastors Johnny & Heidi Wade)—\$50. Budget/Sun.—\$1742.

**Alleluia!** As the Risen Jesus greeted Mary (John 20:16), so He greets us. Welcome to Easter worship! Guests, please sign the book in the narthex.

Our time of prayer during our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be printed in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off the next week will be in italics.

**Health Needs of our Members:** Raymond Anderson. Sandy Baier. Dorothy Friman. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston. Sue Neumeister.

**Health Needs:** Shane Gibeau (Tripp community). Kelly Naslund (First American). Kendall Simpferfer (brother of Joelyn Orchard).

**Sympathy:** Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of *Roger Tiede* (former member of Hope & First American).

**Birthdays:** 2 Andrew Hanson. 4 Dorothy Friman, Karen Just.

**AFLC Churches:** Faith Lutheran, Metropolis, IL; Living Word Lutheran, Eagan, MN; Grace Free Lutheran Church, Edinburg, ND.

**Mission:** Union Gospel Mission in Sioux Falls

**The Easter Offering at First American** will be given to the Southeastern South Dakota Lutherans for Life ultrasound fund unless otherwise designated. This fund provides support for the ultrasound ministry of the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls.

**Lenten Suppers:** Thank you to everyone who helped to organize, prepare, and serve our Lenten meals this year at Hope and First American!

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” – 1 Peter 4:10 Thank you all for your service!



**Congratulations** to Brice & Hannah Caery on the birth of their son, Blake Andrew. Blake was born on Maundy Thursday, March 28, and weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. Blake joins older siblings, Chloe & Reed. Proud grandparents are Bob & Karen Just.

**Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches**  
Pastor Barry Nelson

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# Today's Readings

March 31, 2024

The Resurrection of Our Lord

## Old Testament

### Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup> On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. <sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; <sup>8</sup> he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup> In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

### Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup> Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup> **I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
apart from you I have no good thing."**

<sup>3</sup> I say of the holy people who are in the land,  
"They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."

<sup>4</sup> **Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.  
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods  
or take up their names on my lips.**

<sup>5</sup> LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;  
you make my lot secure.

<sup>6</sup> **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
surely I have a delightful inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup> I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;  
even at night my heart instructs me.

<sup>8</sup> **I keep my eyes always on the LORD.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,

<sup>10</sup> **because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.**

<sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

## Epistle

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup> and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

*Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.*

## Gospel

### Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup> and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" <sup>4</sup> But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'" <sup>8</sup> Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Lessons – April 7, 2024: First Lesson – Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 148:1-6,13-14

Epistle – 1 John 1:1-10

Gospel – Mark 3:7-12

## Mark 16:1-8

"Courageous Witnesses of the Resurrection" March 31, 2024

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### 1. Anticipated Obstacles

### 2. Unexpected Encounter

### 3. Uncertain Reception

## Easter Lilies at First American given in memory of:

*"I am the  
resurrection  
and the life."*  
JOHN 11:25



Albert & Erma Batterman  
Claire Elaine Bietz  
Delbert Bitterman  
Audrey Conner  
Edward & Rose Cramer  
Idell & Darlene Dozark  
Edwin Falor  
Ludwig & Emma Huether  
Teresa Rose Huether  
Gary Jerke  
Vernon & Gloria Just  
Oliver Mogck  
Kim Mueller  
Chuck Orchard  
Henry H. Prien  
Margaret Schult  
Irwin & Irene Vande Griend  
Mae Vande Griend  
Caleigh Ziegler