

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter Acclamation

Berea-by-the-Water Lutheran Church (LC-C)

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Serving Christ 53 years in Goderich & 152 years in Dashwood



2025 THEME FOR BEREA & ZION

COME AND SEE!

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Come and experience the faith that ties us together and keeps us at Berea and Zion. In a world of increasing uncertainty, you and I are encouraged to live and share the basics of our faith that keeps us here. It is vital, life and eternal life changing, to know Jesus, our Saviour who lived, suffered, died, and rose, for us, to set us free from the control of evil.

Our faith is grounded in the Good News that Jesus lives... the victory is won. Living the victorious life means that Jesus is an ever-present source of peace, comfort and hope in our lives. This year let's open doors for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of our families, friends and community by warmly inviting them to... "COME AND SEE"!

BEREA & ZION GUESTS

At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family to be a part of, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ.

Talk to Pastor John today.



A BRIEF SELF-EXAMINATION BEFORE THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- I recognize that I fall short of God's expectations of me, and I humbly confess to Him all my sins, and sincerely repent of them.
- I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and He died for the forgiveness of all my sins. Jesus is the only Saviour from sin, death and the power of the devil.
- ~ I am reconciled to anyone who would have anything against me to the best of my abilities.
- I believe that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour are REALLY present in, with, and under the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, and to strengthen my union with Him and fellow believers.
- ~ With God's help, I intend to amend my sinful life and live a life of service to Him through regular worship, sacrificial giving and thankful living.

Lutheran Church-Canada (LC-C) congregations practice close(d) communion, (current communicant members of this congregation and those sister congregations in altar fellowship with us), believing that the Bible encourages unity in belief for those receiving the sacrament together.

Other guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament or to inquire about our beliefs further are asked to meet with the pastor prior to communing for the first time.

For those NOT communing, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you want <u>a blessing only</u> by placing your arms across your chest.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD April 20, 2025

As We Gather

"He is risen!"-the Church shouts with confidence-"He is risen indeed!" The high point of our Christian life is celebrated this morning as we gather with all of God's children to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As today's Gospel from Luke 24 will show us, confusion and fear give way to confident faith when the women who went to the tomb realize Jesus is alive and then share this good news with the other disciples. Through those disciples, this message has reached us also! Just as God had promised through His prophets of old, the Lord Himself will restore creation and bring harmony to all life-beginning with Jesus' resurrection and continuing until the Last Day, when Jesus returns in glory, destroys death itself, and raises us up to new lives in His eternal kingdom. With confidence in God's promises, we say: "I know that my Redeemer lives!" What comfort, what hope, what joy this sweet sentence gives!

WELCOME AND SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Opening Hymn

482 This Joyful Eastertide

1 This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow! My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain

ref.

Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison, Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!

2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river; Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: Refrain

3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number: Refrain

Invocation and Opening Sentences

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Absolution

P: We confess our sins before God our Father, and Christ, our risen King!

C: Resurrected Lord and Saviour, we confess that our Easter faith and joy can be meager. We at times have faltered in sharing Your love. Our forgiveness for others... depends. We have failed to be gracious in conflict and forget that all believers belong to You. Forgive us for these and all our sins in thought, word, and deed.

P: Jesus has died. Jesus has risen. Jesus lives and reigns eternally. We, too are more than conquerors through Jesus. Our eternal confidence and unwavering faith are in Him alone! Forgiveness and freedom is ours thanks to Jesus. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Hymn of Praise

This Is the Feast (LSB 155)

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

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

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

2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour, blessing, and glory are His.

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

3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

4 Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

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

5 For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We pray, Almighty Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

+ WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

(God re-creates all things new!-the heavens, the earth, Jerusalem, the chosen-upending a sin-broken world, preparing all believers for new life in resurrection.)

"Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They 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. They shall not labour in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

(In the end, the kingdom of God will rule over every power and authority. All believers shall be made alive in Christ.)

If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first-fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:1–12

(The Lord is crucified, killed, and buried, but His tomb is found empty! Resurrection triumph prevails. Jesus is alive! Believers are perplexed, amazed, yet confident by faith.)

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marvelling at what had happened.

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. AMEN

Children's Talk (Zion)

Hymn of the Day

469 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!" Saints on earth and angels say; Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.

- 2 Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won; Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell. Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened paradise.
 - 4 Lives again our glorious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O grave?
- 5 Soar we now where Christ has led; Foll'wing our exalted Head. Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
 Thee we greet triumphant now:
 Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Prayers of the Church

P: Heavenly Father, with great joy and thanksgiving, we praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. By His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus has granted us everlasting life with You. He has opened the way for us to know You forever and to live with confidence that You hear us when we pray. Thank You Father. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Jesus, in a world full of chaos and confusion, we find refuge in the fact that You are on Your throne as King of kings and Lord of lords watching over us. Thank You Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Holy Spirit, we lift up the needs of our lives and the concerns of those we love. For those who are hungry and hurting, doubting and dismaying, grant that the message of Jesus' resurrection brings restoration and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Lord, there are many among us who are in need. For the sick, suffering, hurting, ailing, and those recovering we ask for Your healing touch. We especially lift up... and all in our hearts. Help them to know Your presence in their hours of need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: God, when the troubles of life seem overwhelming, steady us with Your presence. Be the rock on which Your Church is built and through whom we can confidently share the Good News of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Lord, death was not the end for Jesus; neither is it the end for those who trust in You. Give peace, hope, and the certainty of the

coming Day of resurrection to all those who mourn and grieve, Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Lord, what a blessing it is to be in Your house today as we celebrate the resurrection of our Saviour! Jesus' triumph over sin, death, and the devil is the reason we rejoice today, and every day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: Holy Spirit, we rejoice with those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week. We thank you for the blessings of the past and entrust them to your future care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayers.

P: We lift these things an all on our hearts to You, in Jesus name.

C: AMEN

+ CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER +

(The communion candles are lit at this time)

Luther's Admonition to the Communicants

P: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note and give thanks for the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own words administer and receive the Testament. LW p. 197-198

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.

You alone are holy, worthy and righteous.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
We rejoice to join the hymns Of earth and sky and sea.
Generations praise you, with the saints and angels
Holy, blessed through all eternity.

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

Words of Institution

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Lu ke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: AMEN

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away -Our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Distribution Hymns

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

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 ye heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia! Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia! When contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Dismissal Blessing

P: May this holy and precious body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

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 all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 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.

4 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.

5 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.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end; He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death; He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Announcements and Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

BEREA

Organist: Bill Irwin

Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker

For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622

ZION

Organist: Joanne Maguire

Altar Guild: Mary Ann W. / Kathy K.

Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter, Randy Bowers,

Jeff Miller

For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789

Children's Talk: Peter Datars

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