



*Christ  
the Lord is  
Risen  
Today*

*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts  
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Resurrection of Our Lord  
Easter Sunday  
March 31, 2024*



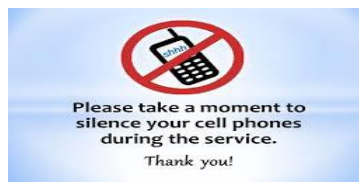
**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Sunday, March 31, 2024**  
**Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday**  
**Reverend Giuseppe Mattei**

The Liturgy is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

**Are you hearing impaired?** If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

**Today's worship service** is being live-streamed beginning at 9:25am and will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9. The service is available to view anytime on the home page of our website: [www.nlcww.org](http://www.nlcww.org).

**In-person attendance for last Sunday: 203**



**CHIMES**

*Indicates the start of worship*

**AN EASTER WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Joel Raney

Organist: Kathy Hackemer

Pianist: Carlan Helgeson

**THE GATHERING**  
**The Holy Spirit calls us**  
**together as the people of God.**

*Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.*

## **THE EASTER PROCLAMATION**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain! Alleluia!

**He gives us new life and hope through his resurrection! Alleluia!**

God has claimed us as his own.

**God has called us from our darkness into the light of his day.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*Now All the Vault  
of Heaven Resounds*

367



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; set heart and will on  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heav'n - ly



still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;  
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song  
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his pres -  
 grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives  
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"  
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## GREETING

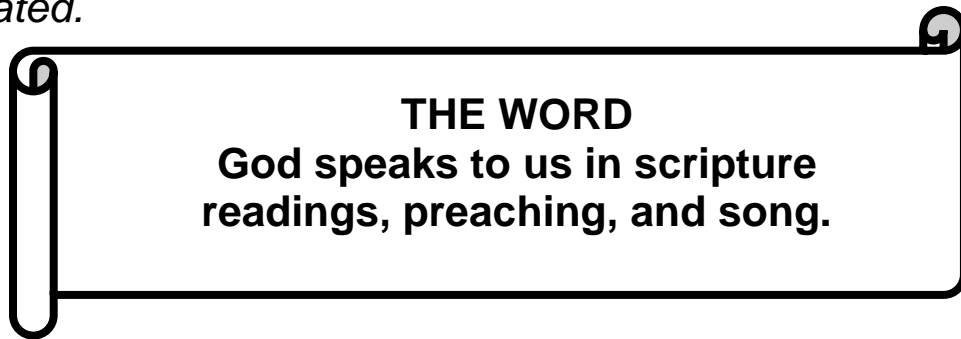
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ... the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, You gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption... one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



## BELL CHOIR

*Easter Proclamation*

Lloyd Larson  
Nativity Ringers

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

**10:34-43**

Reader: Pat Squires

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*Alleluia! Christ is Alive*

Joel Raney

## A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

**15:1-11**

Reader: Pat Squires

*Please stand as you are able for the gospel processional.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Halle, halle, halle - lu - jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle - lu - jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle - lu - jah!**  
**Hallelujah! Hal-le-lu-jah! (repeat)**

## **CHOIR**

Now Christ is raised up from death, He will never die again.  
All who follow his way shall have life in him:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**  
**Hallelujah! Hal-le-lu-jah! (repeat)**

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**MARK 16:1-8**

The holy gospel according to Mark.  
**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <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>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are

looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Hallelujah! Hal-le-lu-jah! (repeat)**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

365

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!



*Stand or sit as you desire.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

After each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*



## **MUSIC OFFERING**

*Allegro from Sonata III*

G.F. Handel

Violin: Desiree Mattei

## **OFFERING**

*You may drop your offering in the basket by the exit door or at the office during the week. You may also donate on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page. Now you may also contribute using Venmo or Zelle if you have an account or using the QR code below. For more information about these methods see today's Weekly Announcement Sheet.*



## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, You are the Bread of life and the Host of this meal. **Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with a hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## REMEMBERING GOD'S ACTS OF GRACE

Blessed are You, O God of the Universe.

**Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Praise to You for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to You for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

**Praise to You for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.**

**Praise to You for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.**

**Praise to You for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.**

Praise to You for the death and resurrection of Christ.

**Praise to You for your Spirit poured out on all nations.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for  
you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
**Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.**

Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise You, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

# THE 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.**

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come, guests and friends of any age and background, take your place at the table!

*Please be seated. Please follow the instructions of the ushers as you come forward. Please let an usher know if you cannot come to the altar to receive communion. We will have communion brought to you.*

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

638, 826, 377, 384, 389

*Please stand as you are able.*

## TABLE BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament You strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. **May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



## BLESSING

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Thine Is The Glory*

376

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*

where thy bod - y lay.  
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.**

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace! Share the good news! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Jason Payne

Organist: Kathy Hackemer



***If you ordered an Easter lily, you may take it after service today.***

***There will be no scheduled coffee hour after service today.***

## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 4:32-25	Psalm 133
1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31



**PRAYERS:** The list will be cleared every four weeks. If you wish to remain on the list longer, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. *In case of emergency, contact the office at 352-597-1456 and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*

## **PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

### ***New this week:***

***Continue to pray for:*** Tina Anderson, Rob Anthony, Gus Aroyo, Tracey Baker, A & D Barsumian, Herb Baynon, Carlos Bayron family, Stephen Benner, Marlene Biachin, Windy and Bill Binns, Linda Blatt, Teresa Brady, Agnes Burkart, Cawley family, Roger Cawley, Patrick Cotter, Denise Crawford, Denning family, Judy Dietz, David Farmer, Tracy Flanders and family, Irene Froehlich, Janis & Ryan Geiger, Rich Geiser, Gibson family, Larry Gilbert, Craig Gosen, Courtney Groetsch, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, Ron and Linda Hansen, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Glenn Heinecke, Jim Hennessey, Kay Hill, Barbara Hofving, Joel Jensen, Rainer Jenss, Brian Johnson, John Johnson, Walter Johnson, June Johnston, Willy K., Kevin Kehoe, Sandi Krol, Kerry & Lynn Krol, Sandra Lee, Lisa Luckman, Lofgren family, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, John Mau, Sharelle Miller, Amy Miller-Beckner, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Sheryl O'Conner, Kim Ohlhauser, Oliver family, Dot Orthman, Lisa Overs-Morton, John Persico, Daniel Raines, Judy Reid, Dennis Rogers, Rocco family, Angela S, Marty Salzbach, Fran Santos, Rhonda Schadler, Carole Schaefer, Nancy Schenning, Judi Schreiner, Schuttler family, Tyler Shirey, Sirmenis family, Debbie, Dan & Buddy Smith Eileen Smith, Rob Southey, Barbara Strohl, Jessica Swan, Alan & Jackie Sweet, Mary Ann Szmanski, Torres family, Alice Totten, Jean Tyszinski, Jim Viereck, Wagner family, family of Chad and Katy Waldorf, West family, Luke Williams, Willy K., Richard Wright and family, Brian Yoos, Laurretta Z.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY**

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Tyler A. Germann, 1st Lt. Robert M. Heinecke, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, CTT1 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class, LCpl. Erich Timm, Chief Warrant Officer 3-Adam Timmerman, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

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<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Deacon Charlotte Downing Vicki Page
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Paige Burchhardt, Gianna Fara, Ava Podolsky and Anthony Trepén
<b>Guest Organist</b>	Kathy Hackemer
<b>Ushers</b>	Gwen Mahon, Lou Prettyman, Ed Quinones & Robert Rios
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Lou Prettyman
<b>Music Director</b>	Donna Olsen
<b>Bell Choir Directors</b>	Janet & Todd Holly
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Janet Jones, Robert Rios & Noel Prettyman
<b>Sanctuary</b>	Connie Chase & Beryl Clements
<b>Greeter</b>	Evelyn Galli
<b>AV Director</b>	Art Alt
<b>Audio</b>	Pat Squires
<b>Cameras</b>	Tim Cotter & Mark Major
<b>Graphics</b>	Diane Alt, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
<b>Video Production</b>	Vicki Page
<b>Head counter this week</b>	Ernie Horeis

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

## **OUR VALUES STATEMENT**

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ. We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

## **NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: [Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com), Website: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Deacon Clyde Rosten

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Bell Choir Directors: Janet & Todd Holly

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.